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OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

Extract from the report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund on its regular session for 1992*

* The report of the Executive Board will be issued in final form as Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1992, Supplement No. 9 (E/1992/29).

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SUMMARY

In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolutions 1988/77 and 1989/114 on the revitalization of the work of the Council, the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) wishes to highlight the recommendations made and decisions adopted at its 1992 regular session.

The Executive Board, in a decision on follow-up to the World Summit for Children (decision 1992/13), welcomed the initiatives taken by all States to expedite the implementation of national programmes of action and other follow-up measures. The Board also invited all States to re-examine their national budgets with a view to increasing the relative share allocated for the fulfilment of the goals of the Summit, and recommended that the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly give appropriate priority to the review of progress on follow-up to the Summit in accordance with General Assembly resolution 45/217 of 21 December 1990.

The Executive Board invited all States to observe each year, on 20 November (the date on which the General Assembly adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child) or on the day they consider appropriate, Universal Children's Day, with special emphasis on the promotion of the Convention (decision 1992/10).

In a decision on ensuring child survival, protection and development in Africa (decision 1992/21), the Executive Board reaffirmed the commitment of UNICEF to Africa as the region of highest priority at present and its commitment to assist those countries to fulfil the goals of the 1990s, as confirmed at the World Summit for Children. The Board requested UNICEF to undertake all possible measures to continue translating that priority into reality through, inter alia, increasing its fund-raising efforts for supplementary funding of programmes in Africa and strengthening national capacity for the purpose of sustainability.

Regarding UNICEF support to Bamako Initiative activities, the Board called upon UNICEF to continue to promote the community-focused approach to health sector development both within and beyond Africa, in close collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO). UNICEF was requested to identify and study other successful examples of community-focused initiatives and to examine the potential for, and risks of, applying the community-focused approach to other sectors. In the context of the Bamako Initiative, the Board called for further elaboration of the UNICEF health strategy (decision 1992/22).

The Board reiterated the interlinkage of children, environment and development and emphasized the need for a human-centred, poverty-alleviating approach to sustainable development, with a specific focus on "primary environmental care" at the community level, raising of awareness among children and youth for their involvement in practical environmental action, and strengthening of existing and new types of partnership in this area (decision 1992/31).

Concerning Central and Eastern Europe, the Baltic States and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), the Board requested the Executive

Director to undertake activities to address, in an integrated manner, the specific problems of children and women in the countries concerned, in close cooperation with the relevant organizations of the United Nations. The Executive Director was also requested to submit to the Board country programme recommendations for establishing national programmes in countries satisfying criteria for UNICEF assistance, to be financed from several resources and especially through supplementary funds (decision 1992/19). For 1992-1994, the Board authorized funding from the administrative and programme support budget for advocacy and policy work in Central and Eastern Europe, the Baltic States and CIS ($1 million additional in 1992; $2 million per year for 1993 and 1994), plus funds to cover two additional international Professional and two additional General Service posts (decision 1992/42).

In its decision 1992/20 on children and mothers: victims of the Chernobyl disaster, the Board urged the Executive Director, as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 46/150 of 18 December 1991, to continue the consideration of possible technical and other specialized assistance and specific actions to children and mothers living in the areas affected by the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, particularly in Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine. The Executive Director was requested to continue to provide, in full coordination and cooperation with efforts envisaged by the United Nations system, all appropriate support and assistance to children and mothers who are victims of the Chernobyl disaster.

The Executive Board requested the Governments of Latin America and the Caribbean to give maximum support to assure effective implementation and continuity of projects under the Special Adjustment Facility for Latin America and the Caribbean (SAFLAC) so that the objectives for which they were designed could be fully accomplished. The Board decided to consider the renewal or expansion of SAFLAC at its next regular session in 1993 (decision 1992/18)

In decision 1992/23 on strengthening national capacities, the Board requested the Executive Director to ensure that national capacity-building was an integral component specifically addressed in all UNICEF programmes in the areas of the formulation of policies and the selection of programme priorities, as well as the design, implementation and evaluation of national programmes and projects.

Concerning the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1995 (E/ICEF/1992/3), the Executive Board reaffirmed the priority of the country programming process in all UNICEF field activities and the continued need for strengthening the decentralization of UNICEF activities. The Board endorsed the programme objectives as contained in the medium-term plan, taking into account the comments and suggestions made by Board members during the discussion of the plan. The Board approved, as a set of indicative targets, the distribution of resources by major programme sectors as indicated in paragraph 271 and table 4 of the medium-term plan, bearing in mind that the exact figures are not predetermined globally, but are arrived at through the country programming process and, as such, may not meet fully the targets indicated (decision 1992/12).

The Board also approved the financial medium-term plan (E/ICEF/1992/3) as a framework of projections for 1992-1995, including the preparation of up to $400 million in programme expenditures from general resources to be submitted

to the 1993 Executive Board. The amount is subject to the availability of resources and to the condition that estimates of income and expenditure in the plan continue to be valid (decision 1992/33).

In decision 1992/17 on the Children's Vaccine Initiative, the Executive Board requested UNICEF to continue to collaborate closely with other parties in support of Initiative activities through actions set forth in decision 1991/16 (E/ICEF/1991/15) and by various measures for strengthening the vaccine delivery system; assuring the availability of low-cost, high-quality vaccines for developing countries; contributing towards the global immunization targets; and facilitating the introduction of new and improved cost-effective vaccines into the expanded programme immunization.

The Board approved a total of $420,366,172 from general resources and $565,356,000 for supplementary funding for programme cooperation in Africa, the Americas and the Caribbean, Asia and the Middle East and North Africa and to cover overexpenditure (decision 1992/15). It approved an additional $3 million from general resources for the Children's Vaccine Initiative (decision 1992/17). In a recommendation on the use of global funds (decision 1992/16), the Board approved an amount of $144,012,000 for the programme budgets for the biennium 1992-1993, as revised, approved a total recommendation of $181,319,000 for supplementary funding for the biennium 1992-1993 and approved an amount of $27,600,000 to be raised from supplementary funding for the biennium 1994-1995.

In decision 1992/14 on the reorganization and consolidation of global funds, the Board decided that the Emergency Reserve Fund would be renamed the Emergency Programme Fund, and also decided that the Interregional Fund for Programme Preparation, Promotion and Evaluation and the Regional Fund would be retained and used primarily for global and regional activities, respectively. The Executive Director was requested, as of 1 January 1994, to narrow the focus of the Programme Fund for the 1990s Goals (PF90s) and to include those initiatives designed to introduce new and innovative approaches in country programmes. The Board also suggested that all activities supported by PF90s, if successful, should be incorporated into country programmes within five years. Otherwise, they should be terminated.

The Board also decided that, in the election of the Chairman of the Executive Board, regard shall be had for the equitable geographic rotation of this office among the following regional groups: African States, Asian States, Eastern European States, Latin American and Caribbean States and Western European and other States, with effect from the Board year commencing 1 August 1993 (decision 1992/7).

The Board called upon the Executive Director to encourage National Committees for UNICEF to continue to place education for development in a central role within their advocacy strategies, particularly those which relate to the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Executive Director was also encouraged to maintain and strengthen contact with other United Nations agencies, particularly the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), with relevant non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and with institutions and individuals in the professional education community working in the field of education for development (decision 1992/25).

The Board endorsed recommendations made in 1992 by the UNESCO/UNICEF Joint Committee on Education (decision 1992/30) and by the UNICEF/WHO Joint Committee on Health Policy (decision 1992/29).

Concerning acute respiratory infections (ARI), the Board endorsed a series of actions by UNICEF including: support to ARI control at the national level; building on existing structures; establishment of clear national policies and plans of action; sustainability of ARI control programmes; involvement of community health workers in the diagnosis and treatment of pneumonia; and full involvement of mothers and communities (decision 1992/27).

Regarding the role of UNICEF in combating the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)/acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), the Board urged UNICEF to strengthen collaboration with other United Nations agencies, particularly the WHO Global Programme on AIDS and the United Nations Development Programme, to ensure both complementarity and effectiveness of UNICEF activities at the country level in the context of the Global AIDS Strategy and within broadened and strengthened individual country medium-term plans which are designed to combat HIV/AIDS. The Executive Director was requested to review the UNICEF AIDS programme approach to ensure its consistency with the Global AIDS Strategy and make refinements as necessary (decision 1992/26).

In decision 1992/28 on the UNICEF policy on family planning, the Executive Board requested the Executive Director to contribute substantively to the 1994 Conference on Population and Development and urged the Executive Director to enhance UNICEF cooperation with all involved agencies and organizations, particularly the United Nations Population Fund and WHO, each within its own mandate, as well as with NGOs, at the field level, establishing and monitoring indicators of collaboration in order to support family planning in the context of sustainable national health care systems.

The Board decided that representatives of Board member countries should undertake field visits, and that it would determine the programme aspects of the visits, take into account the equitable representation of Board membership in selecting the participants and select the countries to be visited. The Board also decided that the expenses of participants from developed countries would be borne by those countries, while the expenses of participants from other countries would be funded on a sliding scale from the UNICEF administrative budget (decision 1992/32).

In order to ensure that all programme areas supported by UNICEF are evaluated in the course of a specific country programme, the Board reaffirmed its decision 1990/4 (E/ICEF/1990/13) that a past review of evaluations and their use and a summary of the evaluation plan and structure be included in all country programmes submitted to the Executive Board (decision 1992/24).

Regarding the UNICEF recovery policy, the Executive Board approved, on an interim basis, a series of recommendations of the Executive Director, including that the policy of charging a 6 per cent recovery rate to all supplementary-funded projects for non-emergency purposes, excluding those funded by National Committees, NGOs and host Governments funding their own programmes should continue; that a charge of 6 per cent shall be made on all emergency supplementary-funded programmes, excluding those funded by National Committees, NGOs and host Governments funding their own programmes; and that

the procedure for assigning and collecting recovery charges should remain as currently established (decision 1992/37).

Regarding headquarters office accommodation, the Board requested the Executive Director to continue to negotiate and refine the proposals already submitted by him and to evaluate any other attractive additional proposals that may be offered, to continue the review of the non-financial implications of moving most or all of central headquarters from Manhattan, and to submit a recommendation for approval to the Executive Board, through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, either at the 1993 regular Board session or at a special session called for that purpose. It also authorized the Executive Director to lease, on a temporary basis, up to a maximum of 15,000 additional square feet over the next two years (decision 1992/35).

The Board also requested the Executive Director to prepare an updated version of "An overview of UNICEF policies, organization and working methods" (E/ICEF/670/Rev.3) for its 1993 session (decision 1992/9); took note of the Executive Director's introductory statement as a useful contribution to the forthcoming debate in the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council under the agenda item on "Enhancing international cooperation for development: the role of the United Nations" (decision 1992/11); and decided on measures to improve further its working procedures and to rationalize the utilization of time of the regular Board sessions (decision 1992/8).

Concerning the Greeting Card and related operations (GCO) 1992 work plan and proposed budget, the Board approved budget expenditures for the fiscal year 1 May 1992-30 April 1993 and authorized the Executive Director to take certain measures related to incurring expenditure and the transfer of funds between allotment accounts, and to spend an additional amount between Board sessions when necessary to ensure the continued operation of GCO (decision 1992/40).

The Board approved a series of proposed structures and formats for budget documents and approved criteria for core and projects posts (decision 1992/36); noted a series of reports (decisions 1992/34, 1992/38 and 1992/41); and deferred a decision on whether to proceed with a review of the administrative and management structure at UNICEF headquarters until the 1993 regular session (decision 1992/39).

DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD
AT ITS 1992 REGULAR SESSION

1992/1. UNICEF Maurice Pate Award*

On the recommendation of the Executive Director,

The Executive Board

1. Decides to present the UNICEF Maurice Pate Award, established at its 1966 session to honour significant contributions by an institution in a developing country in advancing the well-being of children, and extended in 1988 also to include individuals, to the Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee;

2. Approves an allocation of $25,000 from general resources for that purpose.

1992/2. Recommendations of the second meeting of the UNESCO/UNICEF Joint Committee on Education*

On the recommendation of the Chairman,

The Executive Board,

Having examined document E/ICEF/1991/L.13 containing the recommendations of the second meeting of the Joint Committee on Education,

1. Endorses the following priority areas for cooperation between UNESCO and UNICEF:

(a) Building a monitoring system linked to education-for-all goals, paying attention to new resources, accessibility, quality and learning achievement, and focusing especially on building up national capacities in this field;

(b) Ensuring girls' and women's education, including the development and use of the "third channel" as appropriate;

(c) Training and staff development in basic education, making maximum use of national capacity;

(d) Strengthening the planning capacities, as well as the cooperation between various ministries, particularly in least developed countries, which are responsible for formulating child-oriented policies and programmes, and advocating appropriate action to meet basic learning needs;

(e) Promoting innovative experiences in basic education, including their analysis and dissemination, making full use of (and, where necessary, establishing) regional networking;

(f) Supporting selected research on innovative child-care activities at the community level, primary education and literacy through national universities and other centres at the national and regional levels;

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* Decisions 1992/1, 1992/2, 1992/3, 1992/4, 1992/5 and 1992/6 were approved previously at the winter organizational session of the Executive Board held at United Nations Headquarters on 24 and 25 March 1992 (E/ICEF/1992/13).

(g) Undertaking a feasibility study of the mass provision of strategic inputs, e.g., educational materials and equipment, frequently lacking for effective and relevant basic education practice;

(h) Working jointly on the ethos and content of basic education, combining basic skills with cultural aspects for human development;

2. Requests both secretariats to propose ways and means of strengthening their cooperation at the field level to achieve the goals set by the World Conference on Education for All and by the World Summit for Children;

3. Decides to review, in due course, the programme of cooperation as undertaken by the UNESCO and UNICEF secretariats.

1992/3. Amendment to decision 1990/1 on the timing of the pre-Board organizational session*

On the recommendation of the Chairman,

The Executive Board

Decides to amend section 4 (a) of decision 1990/1 to read as follows:

"The Executive Board will meet at an appropriate time within the first three months of the year, but no later than sixty days preceding the regular session, for an organizational session of up to two days that will replace the informal pre-Board meeting".

1992/4. Amendment to decision 1991/29*

The Executive Board

Recommends that the Executive Director defer implementation of paragraphs 1 (a) and 1 (b) 1/ of Executive Board decision 1991/29 until its 1993 session, pending the outcome of the Executive Board's review, at its regular session in 1992, of the criteria for core and project posts, as requested in decision 1991/30, paragraph 2 (d) 2/.

1/ "Requests the Executive Director to provide the Executive Board, at its next regular session, with a comprehensive review of existing project posts and the criteria for:

"(a) The establishment of project posts at headquarters, in relation to core posts and to their respective functions, bearing in mind the principle that core functions should be financed from the administrative and programme support budget and from the 6 per cent surcharge from supplementary funding;

"(b) The conversion of posts from project to core and vice versa;".

2/ "Recommends ...

"(d) A study and report on the criteria used to decide, in particular at headquarters, which posts should be financed from core or other funds;".

1992/5. Future work and procedures of the Executive Board*

On the recommendation of the Chairman,

The Executive Board,

Recalling its decisions 1987/1, 1987/2, 1989/1, 1989/3 and 1990/1 regarding rationalizing and streamlining the work of the Executive Board,

Taking into account that the General Assembly, in paragraph 20 of its resolution 46/190 of 20 December 1991, invited the Executive Board to review its meeting and documentation requirements in the light of their significant financial implications and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session (1992), through the Committee on Conferences,

Having examined the major issues identified in the Chairman's discussion paper on this subject as contained in document E/ICEF/1991/CRP.6,

Decides to improve further its procedures and to rationalize the utilization of time of the regular Board sessions as follows:

1. Rationalization of time

(a) Meetings should be convened on schedule and the documentation for each session should be made available to delegations in all languages at least six weeks in advance;

(b) The time allocated to the general debate should be shortened by concluding it on the evening of the second day of the Board session;

(c) During the general debate, the order of speakers will be organized to give precedence to ministers and high-level functionaries, followed by Board members and observer delegations;

(d) The response of the Executive Director should be delivered on the morning of the fourth day of the session, as is the case in other forums, to give the secretariat adequate time to prepare it;

(e) The 10-minute time-limit for interventions in the general debate should be scrupulously observed. Permanent missions are requested to stress this to their delegations in advance of the Board session. Delegations that so desire could circulate longer versions of their statements;

(f) The 7-minute time-limit for interventions by delegations in committees and 15 minutes for presentations by the secretariat should be scrupulously observed;

(g) The secretariat is requested to investigate with the United Nations the possibility of installing an appropriate signalling system in the conference room to indicate and monitor the time-limit to speakers, the Chairman and participants alike.

2. Rationalization of subjects to be considered at the regular Board session

(a) The secretariat is requested to provide, at both the winter organizational and regular sessions of the Board, a table indicating the subjects included in the agenda for the previous, the present and the two subsequent years;

(b) The Board should devote special attention at its winter organizational session to additional possibilities for the rationalization of the work of the Board, including a review of meeting and documentation requirements;

(c) The Board should review, at each regular session, the subjects planned for inclusion in the agenda of the following session, with a view to eliminating those items that are no longer relevant or that bear less frequent reporting and to further streamlining the agenda of the Board;

(d) The Board should examine, before the end of each regular session, a comprehensive list of the reports being requested in draft Board decisions, with a view to reducing the overall number and volume of separate reports.

3. Documentation

Taking into consideration that page limits have already been established, of 6 pages for regional progress reports, 12 to 14 pages for smaller country programme recommendations and 16 to 18 pages for medium-sized and larger ones, and recognizing that the Executive Director's report, the budget document and the medium-term plan are, by their nature, exempt from a standard page limitation:

(a) A maximum length of 15 pages, as opposed to the current limit of 24 pages, is set for policy papers and other similar documents; 3/

(b) The following schedule of documents for future Board sessions identifies some documents that should be considered annually by the Board and others biennially, or as otherwise mandated. In turn, this list could determine the frequency of listing the relevant issues on the agenda of the Executive Board, leading, at the same time, to lightening the agenda of the Board and facilitating more in-depth discussions of fewer major agenda items.

4. Periodicity of reporting

Based upon current expectations and foreseeable needs, the secretariat is requested to observe the following reporting cycle:

Document	Frequency
Progress report on Summit follow-up	Annual
UNICEF strategy for Africa	Annual
Report on Children's Vaccine Initiative	Annual, in the Executive Director's report
Strategy for prevention of human immune deficiency virus (HIV)/ acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS)	Annual, in the Executive Director's report
Progress report on UNICEF policy on women in development, including the situation of the girl child	Biennial, in non-budget years (in interim years, to be included in the Executive Director's report)
Acute respiratory infections	Annual, in the Executive Director's report
Report on overall progress and results achieved in evaluation	Periodicity subject to discussions at the 1992 Board session
Documents pertaining to the work of the Executive Board Reference Group on the format of the budget	Any follow-up will be dependent on discussions at the 1992 Board session

3/ If this proposal is accepted by the Board, an exemption must be made for those documents that are already at an advanced stage of preparation for the 1992 regular session.

1992/5. Standard Basic Cooperation Agreement between UNICEF and Governments*

The Executive Board

1. Takes note of the standard Basic Cooperation Agreement, as well as taking note of concerns expressed by some delegations, to enable the secretariat to use it in negotiations with Governments with which UNICEF cooperates in programmes, with due respect to national legislation, as and when this is mutually agreed by the concerned Government and UNICEF;

2. Requests the secretariat to continue discussions with concerned Governments and report back on this in a conference room paper to the June 1992 session.

1992/7. Rotation of Executive Board chairmanship

The Executive Board,

Bearing in mind the summary of discussions in the Bureau on the rotation of the Executive Board chairmanship, as contained in paragraphs 9 to 12 of the Chairman's paper on future work and procedures (E/ICEF/1992/CRP.5),

Taking into account its deliberations on this subject during its organizational session of 24 and 25 March 1992,

Decides that, in the election of the Chairman of the Executive Board, regard shall be had for the equitable geographical rotation of this office among the following regional groups: African States, Asian States, Eastern European States, Latin American and Caribbean States and Western European and other States, with effect from the Board year commencing 1 August 1993.

1992/8. Governance in the Executive Board

The Executive Board,

Recalling its decision 1992/5 regarding rationalizing and streamlining the work of the Executive Board,

Bearing in mind also General Assembly resolution 45/264 of 13 May 1991 on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields,

Taking into account the proposals made by the Executive Director towards improvement of the work of the Executive Board and its Bureau, and papers on the subjects tabled by the Chairpersons of the Board,

Anxious to minimize the number of agenda items, often resulting from the many separate reports requested in previous decisions,

Conscious of the increasing pressure of business on the Executive Board and the difficulties in the dispatch of business faced by recent meetings due to, inter alia, increased volume and late arrival of documentation,

Conscious also of the need to facilitate effective participation of all members of the Board in its activities and deliberations,

Recognizing that the increased volume of documentation disseminated by traditional physical transfer is not conducive to the cost-effective and early distribution of documentation to Board members,

1. Decides to improve further its procedures and to rationalize the utilization of time of the regular Board sessions as follows:

(a) Before the end of each regular session, the secretariat, in consultation with the Bureau, should propose for Board approval the list of information requested in Board decisions and whether such information shall be addressed in the Executive Director's report or as separate reports;

(b) The secretariat should explore the possibility of the electronic transfer of documentation, such transfer to commence with the permanent missions in New York;

(c) The Bureau should examine all proposals and views on the Executive Board's working methods and organization expressed during the present and previous regular and organizational sessions and views on the subject expressed by 31 August 1992 and prepare recommendations aimed at improvement of the Executive Board's working methods and organization for consideration at the 1993 winter organizational session;

2. Requests the secretariat to make the documents available in good time in all the working languages of the United Nations.

1992/9. Update of "An overview of UNICEF policies, organization and working methods"

The Executive Board,

Recognizing the necessity for detailed and up-to-date information about UNICEF policies, organization and working methods,

Requests the Executive Director to prepare an updated version of "An overview of UNICEF policies, organization and working methods" (E/ICEF/670/Rev.3) for the Executive Board at its 1993 session.

1992/10. Universal Children's Day

The Executive Board,

Recalling United Nations General Assembly resolution 836/IX of 14 December 1954 on Universal Children's Day, resolution 1386/XIV of 20 November 1959 on the Declaration of the Rights of the Child and resolution 44/25 of 20 November 1989, in which the Assembly adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child,

Considering that the adoption of the Convention represented a major milestone in the recognition and protection of the rights of the child,

Bearing in mind the desirability of disseminating as widely as possible information on the rights protected under the Convention and on United Nations efforts to promote the effective enjoyment of those rights,

Acknowledging that the observance of a Universal Children's Day should take the form of an effective expression of the support of the international community for the rights of the child,

Invites all States to observe each year, on 20 November or on a day they consider appropriate, Univeral Children's Day, with special emphasis on the promotion of the Convention.

1992/11. Report of the Executive Director: proposals for reform of United Nations operational activities

The Executive Board,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 44/211 of 22 December 1989 on the comprehensive triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, and General Assembly decision 46/465 of 20 December 1991,

Bearing in mind also General Assembly resolution 45/264 of 13 May 1991 on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields,

Taking note of the report of the Executive Director contained in document E/ICEF/1992/2 (Parts I and II), of the introductory statement of the Executive Director (E/ICEF/1992/CRP.21), as well as of the views of the members of the Executive Board expressed during the general debate,

Takes note of the Executive Director's statement as a useful contribution to the forthcoming debate in the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council under the agenda item entitled "Enhancing international cooperation for development: the role of the United Nations".

1992/12. Medium-term plan for the period 1992-1995

On the recommendation of the Programme Committee,

The Executive Board,

Having reviewed the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1995 (E/ICEF/1992/3),

Recalling that the programme objectives and strategies elaborated in the medium-term plan basically reaffirm policy decisions taken by the Executive Board in recent years, notably decision 1990/2 (E/ICEF/1990/13) on development goals and strategies for children, priorities for UNICEF action in the 1990s (E/ICEF/1990/L.5) and decision 1991/10 (E/ICEF/1991/15) on the role of UNICEF in the follow-up to the World Summit for Children,

1. Reaffirms the priority of the country programming process in all UNICEF field activities and the continued need for strengthening decentralization of UNICEF activities;

2. Also reconfirms that the situation analysis should be broad and holistic and as such form the basis for UNICEF advocacy on behalf of children as well as for the identification, by the Government concerned, of the priority needs. The programme cooperation should further take into account relevant Executive Board decisions, UNICEF comparative advantage and past experiences, as well as the mandates and strengths of other agencies and organizations involved;

3. Endorses the programme objectives as contained in the medium-term plan, taking into account the comments and suggestions made by Board members during the discussion of the plan;

4. Approves, as a set of indicative targets, the distribution of resources by major programme sectors as indicated in paragraph 271 and table 4 of the medium-term plan, bearing in mind that the exact figures are not predetermined globally but are arrived at through the country programming process, and as such may not meet fully the targets indicated;

5. Invites the donor community to take into account these indicative sectoral funding targets so that their contributions, especially to supplementary funds, will assist in enabling UNICEF to achieve these targets.

1992/13. Follow-up to the World Summit for Children

On the recommendation of the Programme Commitee,

The Executive Board,

Having reviewed the Executive Director's progress report on the follow-up to the World Summit for Children (E/ICEF/1992/12),

Recognizing that the follow-up to the World Summit for Children has been substantial and widespread and that a serious start towards the realization of the goals adopted by the World Summit has been made by many countries,

Aware that implementation of the World Summit Declaration and Plan of Action will be the subject of a report by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council,

Recalling also that the Secretary-General of the United Nations was requested by the World Summit to arrange for a mid-decade review, at all appropriate levels, of the progress being made towards implementing the commitments of the World Summit Declaration and Plan of Action,

Aware also that Agenda 21 (A/CONF/151/PC/L.72) of the recently concluded United Nations Conference on Environment and Development has endorsed the goals of the World Summit for Children and called upon Governments to implement them as an important step towards sustainable development,

Mindful that the national programmes of action (NPAs) can be valuable means for all States in implementing the Convention on the Rights of the Child,

1. Welcomes the initiatives taken by all States to expedite the implementation of NPAs and other follow-up measures to the World Summit for Children, including the Organization of African Unity International Conference on Assistance to African Children, the League of Arab States High-Level Meeting on Children, the Second South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation Conference on Children and the review of World Summit follow-up organized as part of the Ibero-American Summit and the Summit of Central American States and the Caribbean Summit for Children;

2. Invites countries that have not taken any action towards, or are delayed in, the preparation of NPAs to complete these expeditiously as part of the solemn commitment their heads of State or Government undertook by signing the Declaration and Plan of Action;

3. Requests those countries in which NPAs are in draft or outline form to finalize them and to move them to the implementation stage;

4. Suggests that Governments develop, review and implement NPAs with the active participation of all relevant sectors of society, including non-governmental organizations;

5. Invites countries to integrate their NPAs in the national planning process by incorporating them into long- or medium-term development plans or public investment programmes where they exist;

6. Further invites all States to re-examine their national budgets with a view to increasing the relative share allocated for the fulfilment of the goals of the World Summit for Children;

7. Invites, in this respect, donor countries, in particular those in a position to do so, to consider increasing their development assistance budgets with a view to according a higher priority for achieving the goals of the World Summit for Children as adapted in NPAs of developing countries;

8. Invites United Nations agencies and international financial institutions that have not done so to develop plans and programmes for World Summit follow-up and to report to their respective governing bodies, in accordance with paragraph 35 (i)

of the World Summit Plan of Action, and all relevant agencies to provide support at the country level for the preparation and implementation of NPAs;

9. Invites the Committee on the Rights of the Child to make full use of NPAs in reviewing progress made by States parties in their implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

10. Requests the Executive Director to submit to the regular session of the Executive Board in 1993 a report on the implementation of the present decision;

11. Recommends that the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly give appropriate priority to the review of progress on the follow-up to the World Summit for Children in accordance with General Assembly resolution 45/217 of 21 December 1990.

1992/14. Reorganization and consolidation of global funds

On the recommendation of the Programme Committee,

The Executive Board,

Emphasizing the importance of country programmes as the central driving force of UNICEF development activities for children and women,

Appreciating the value of selected global funds as a useful facilitator for and supplement to country programmes,

Noting the proposal of the Executive Director to consolidate existing global reserves and interregional projects into the following funds:

(a) Interregional Fund for Programme Preparation, Promotion and Evaluation (IFPPE);

(b) Regional Fund;

(c) Emergency Programme Fund;

(d) Programme Fund for the 1990s Goals (PF90s);

Affirming the value of the Emergency Reserve Fund as a means to allow UNICEF to react swiftly to natural and man-made disasters in close coordination with other operational agencies,

Considering that the aim of UNICEF should be to incorporate programme preparation and evaluation as essential, regular activities,

Recognizing the need for UNICEF to have a global instrument for introducing new and innovative approaches in country programmes, thereby contributing to flexibility in UNICEF operations,

Noting that the proposed PF90s encompasses a wide array of diverse activities,

1. Commends the UNICEF secretariat and the Reference Group for their excellent proposals for improving the clarity and transparency of global funds;

2. Takes note of the Executive Director's proposals for the reorganization and consolidation of global funds;

3. Decides that the Emergency Reserve Fund will be renamed the Emergency Programme Fund;

4. Also decides that IFPPE and the Regional Fund will be retained and used primarily for global and regional activities, respectively;

5. Requests the Executive Director as of 1 January 1994 to narrow the focus

of PF90s to include those initiatives designed to introduce and accelerate new and innovative approaches in country programmes and to report to the 1993 Executive Board on the steps being taken to accomplish these objectives and their implications;

6. Requests that in the event of identifying a need to accelerate progress, particularly in country programmes, towards goals for the 1990s, the Executive Director present to the 1993 Board proposals set out in the clear and transparent format recommended by the Executive Director for future presentation of budgets;

7. Suggests that all activities supported by PF90s, if successful, should be incorporated into country programmes within five years; otherwise, they should be terminated;

8. Requests the Executive Director to present to the Executive Board as part of the budget process, clear criteria for the formulation and appraisal of activities to be supported by IFPPE, the Regional Fund and PF90s.

1992/15. Proposals for UNICEF cooperation and programme reviews

On the recommendation of the Programme Committee,

The Executive Board

1. Approves the following recommendations of the Executive Director for programme cooperation as summarized in document E/ICEF/1992/P/L.2 and Add.1:

(a) $178,275,000 for general resources funding, of which $168,430,429 are for new general resources funding, and $192,384,000 for supplementary funding for programme cooperation in Africa;

(b) $65,060,000 for general resources funding, of which $64,155,376 are for new general resources funding, and $99,059,000 for supplementary funding for programme cooperation in the Americas and the Caribbean;

(c) $154,201,000 for general resources funding, of which $144,330,626 are for new general resources funding, and $238,888,000 for supplementary funding for programme cooperation in Asia;

(d) $22,379,000 for general resources funding, of which $22,291,618 are new general resources funding, and $35,025,000 for supplementary funds for programme cooperation in the Middle East and North Africa;

2. Approves an amount of $451,172 to cover overexpenditure.

1992/16. Recommendation for the use of global funds

On the recommendation of the Programme Committee,

The Executive Board,

Adopts the following resolutions, as amended, as contained in the recommendation for use of global funds (E/ICEF/1992/P/L.48) and in the statement of the Chairman of the Programme Committee on its meetings (E/ICEF/1992/P/L.49):

Resolution 1

General resources programme budget estimates for the biennium 1992-1993 a/

The Executive Board

1. Approves the increase of $17.5 million in the programme budget of the Programme Fund for the 1990s Goals;

2. Approves the amount of $6,132,412 to replenish the Emergency Programme Fund for 1992 and an additional amount of $7 million for 1993 to bring the total approved planning level for the biennium to $14 million;

3. Resolves that the general resources programme budget estimates for the biennium 1992-1993 be revised as follows:

(In thousands of United States dollars)

	Headquarters	Field	Total	
IFPPE	25 000	-	25 000	
Regional funds	-	26 830	26 830	
PF90s				
Health				
Mortality Reduction Reserve	4 900	18 000	22 900	
Bamako Initiative	2 500	6 821	9 321	
AIDS	1 874	1 572	3 464	b/
Children's Vaccine Initiative	4 493	150	4 643	b/
Dracunculiasis (guinea worm) eradication	1 500	1 475	2 975	
Subtotal, Health	15 267	28 018	43 285	
Nutrition				
Nutrition	1 237	1 074	2 311	b/
Food and nutrition surveillance	244	391	635	
Control of iodine deficiency disorders (IDD)	2 806	-	2 806	
Subtotal, Nutrition	4 287	1 465	5 752	
Water supply and sanitation	960	1 040	2 000	b/
Education	4 031	12 622	16 653	b/
Children in especially difficult circumstances	420	258	678	b/
Women	871	1 129	2 000	b/
Child monitoring	1 350	2 734	4 084	b/
Environment	1 071	1 519	2 590	b/
Global communication support	296	844	1 140	b/
Subtotal, PF90s	28 553	49 629	78 182	
Emergency Programme Funds	1 300	12 700	14 000	b/
Total, Consolidated global funds	54 853	89 159	144 012	

4. Approves an amount of $144,012,000 for the programme budgets for the biennium 1992-1993, as revised;

5. Decides that the Executive Director be authorized to administer in the most efficient and effective manner the provisions under each of the funds. The Executive Director may, without further authorization of the Executive Board, transfer, if necessary, into any one of the existing activities or establish new initiatives within each fund an amount not exceeding 10 per cent from each activity.

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a/ See table 3a of document E/ICEF/1992/P/L.48.

b/ With new/additional request for funds.

Resolution 2

Supplementary funds programme budget estimates for the biennium 1992-1993 a/

The Executive Board

1. Approves an increase of $23.1 million in the supplementary funds programme budget;

2. Resolves that the supplementary funds programme recommendations for the biennium 1992-1993 be revised as follows:

(In thousands of United States dollars)

	Headquarters	Field	Total	
IFPPE	-	-	-	
Regional funds	-	8 904	8 904	
PF90s				
Health				
Mortality Reduction Reserve	600	79 169	79 769	b/
Bamako Initiative	-	27 635	27 635	
AIDS	500	4 049	4 549	
Children's Vaccine Initiative	9 500	500	10 000	
Dracunculiasis (guinea worm) eradication	-	-	-	
Essential drugs	400	4 194	4 594	
Subtotal, Health	11 000	115 547	126 547	
Nutrition				
Nutrition	200	800	1 000	
Food and nutrition surveillance	450	5 200	5 650	
Control of iodine deficiency disorders (IDD)	2 049	-	2 049	
World Health Organization (WHO)/ UNICEF Joint Nutrition Programme	-	4 123	4 123	c/
Subtotal, Nutrition	2 699	10 123	12 822	
Water supply and sanitation	-	5 000	5 000	
Education	-	6 000	6 000	
Children in especially difficult circumstances	750	4 172	4 922	
Women	-	3 000	3 000	
Child monitoring	350	4 650	5 000	
Environment	-	6 000	6 000	
Global communication support	-	3 124	3 124	
Subtotal, PF90s	14 799	157 616	172 415	
Emergency Programme Funds	-	-	-	
Total, Consolidated global funds	14 799	166 520	181 319	

3. Approves a total recommendation of $181,319,000 for supplementary funding for the biennium 1992-1993.

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a/ See table 3a of document E/ICEF/1992/P/L.48.

b/ Includes supplementary funds approved for cooperation with Rotary International for polio eradication amounting to $40,240,000, of which $28,240,000 is funded and already allocated to countries.

c/ This programme was approved by the Executive Board in 1982 and is thus already funded.

Resolution 3

Supplementary funds programme plan estimates for the biennium 1994-1995 a/

The Executive Board

Approves the following amount of $27,600,000 to be raised from supplementary funds for the biennium 1994-1995, to be broken down as follows:

(In thousands of United States dollars)

PF90s	
Health - AIDS	3 000
Health - Children's Vaccine Initiative	6 000
Nutrition	1 000
Water supply and sanitation	5 000
Education	4 000
Children in especially difficult circumstances	2 500
Women	2 500
Child monitoring	0
Environment	3 000
Global communication support	600
Total	27 600

a/ See table 3a of document E/ICEF/1992/P/L.48

1992/17. Children's Vaccine Initiative

On the recommendation of the Programme Committee,

The Executive Board,

Taking note of the report to the Executive Board contained in the document entitled "Participation in the Children's Vaccine Initiative" (E/ICEF/1992/P/L.46 and Corr. 1), and the recommendation for continuing UNICEF participation in the Children's Vaccine Initiative, which is included in the document entitled "Recommendation for use of global funds" (E/ICEF/1992/P/L.48, paragraphs 17 to 29),

Acknowledging the achievement of the 1990 goal of universal child immunization, including the key role played by UNICEF in this achievement, and the critical role of child immunization in public health infectious disease control,

Stressing the importance of strengthening and sustaining these programmes, including improving their efficiency and cost-effectiveness,

Stressing the importance of full involvement of both scientific institutions and the public health sector in developing countries,

Appreciating the progress made in organizing the Children's Vaccine Initiative during the past year,

Bearing in mind the close link between the Children's Vaccine Initiative, the Vaccine Independence Initiative (E/ICEF/1991/P/L.41) and the global expanded programme on immunization, as described in the paper entitled "Assuring vaccines for the children of the 1990s" (E/ICEF/1992/CRP.17),

1. Reaffirms its decision 1991/16,

2. Requests UNICEF to continue to collaborate closely with other parties in support of Children's Vaccine Initiative activities through actions set forth in the above resolution, and by:

(a) Strengthening the vaccine delivery system through integrating immunization activities with other key maternal and child health interventions, targeted operations research in cold-chain and sterilization management and technology in order to improve vaccines and vaccine delivery systems to meet actual field conditions;

(b) Assuring the availability of low-cost, high-quality vaccines for developing countries through advocacy to vaccine manufacturers to keep prices low for international procurement and, where appropriate, management of the Vaccine Independence Initiative, and support to regional and/or local production and quality control of vaccines;

(c) Contributing towards the global immunization targets through extensive support for disease surveillance, including studies of vaccine side effects, at country and regional levels;

(d) Facilitating the introduction of new and improved cost-effective vaccines into the expanded programme on immunization through appropriate studies, the use of the Vaccine Independence Initiative, revolving funds, and other appropriate mechanisms;

3. Approves $3 million in additional funds for the 1992-1993 biennium from general resources;

4. Requests the Executive Director to:

(a) Forward to the Executive Board in 1993 the progress report on the Children's Vaccine Initiative;

(b) To present to the Executive Board in 1993:

(i) Specific information on UNICEF involvement and, if needed, information on the strategic plan with estimated costs and source of funds by donor;

(ii) A recommendation for continuing UNICEF participation in the Initiative for the biennium 1994-1995 with a proposed budget;

(iii) A review and budgetary analysis of past UNICEF investment in immunization-related activities;

(iv) A projection of future vaccine requirements and investments through 1999, including the participation of UNICEF.

1992/18. Special Adjustment Facility for Latin America and the Caribbean

On the recommendation of the Programme Committee,

The Executive Board,

Welcoming the completed mid-term evaluation of the Special Adjustment Facility for Latin America and the Caribbean (SAFLAC) contained in document E/ICEF/1992/L.15,

Considering that SAFLAC constitutes an innovative mechanism that reflects, in a concrete manner, the concept of "adjustment with a human face", as defined by UNICEF,

Also taking into account that SAFLAC does not create new structures in the administrative management of UNICEF,

1. Decides:

(a) To consider giving adequate financial support to SAFLAC, taking into account its positive impact on the work of UNICEF in Latin America and the Caribbean;

(b) To request the Governments of Latin America and the Caribbean to give maximum support to assure effective implementation and continuity of projects under SAFLAC so that the objectives for which they were designed can be fully accomplished;

2. Decides to consider the renewal or expansion of SAFLAC at its next regular session in 1993, and requests that the Executive Director present at that time concrete recommendations with the purpose of strengthening SAFLAC in the following aspects:

(a) Adequate balance between the formulation and the implementation of projects, and between social mobilization and related policy projects and demonstration of innovative approaches;

(b) Capacity of institutions to implement action;

(c) Training of human resources for long-term capacity-building.

1992/19. Central and Eastern Europe, the Baltic States and the Commonwealth of Independent States

On the recommendation of the Programme Committee,

The Executive Board,

Recalling decisions 1990/5 and 1991/20 on Central and Eastern Europe,

Inspired by the commitment of the World Summit for Children to ameliorate the situation of children in all countries and ensure a better future for every child,

Reconfirming the UNICEF commitment to concentrate its financial support to developing countries,

Recognizing the necessity to address effectively the pressing problems faced by children in Central and Eastern Europe, the Baltic States and the Commonwealth of Independent States undergoing transition towards market economies, in particular in the context of national programmes of action,

Noting the Executive Director's report on UNICEF activities in Central and Eastern Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Baltic States (E/ICEF/1992/L.14),

Emphasizing the importance of an integrated United Nations system approach to, and an integrated United Nations system presence in, the countries concerned,

1. Recognizes the need to enhance the role of UNICEF in Central and Eastern Europe, the Baltic States and the Commonwealth of Independent States on a temporary basis, while maintaining and strengthening its existing commitment to concentrate its financial support to the developing countries;

2. Calls for the development of UNICEF activities in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the Baltic States and the Commonwealth of Independent States in the areas of advocacy, technical assistance, training and programme support, where appropriate;

3. Requests the Executive Director to undertake activities to address, in an integrated manner, the specific problems of children and women in the countries concerned, in close cooperation with the relevant organizations of the United Nations, using in particular the Administrative Committee on Coordination and the Joint Consultative Group on Policy, and further requests the Executive Director to cooperate with other multilateral agencies and organizations, including regional integration organizations, especially the European Community and non-governmental organizations;

4. Approves those recommendations of the Executive Director contained in paragraphs 66, 67, 70-72 and 74 and 75 4/ of document E/ICEF/1992/L.14;

4/ The paragraphs read as follows:

"66. In all Central and Eastern European and CIS countries, the Executive Director should be authorized to continue a programme of support consisting of advocacy, policy support and analytical work focused on:

"(a) Support for the development of child-focused policies in the context of the move to market economies;

"(b) Support for the development of low-cost policies for health, nutrition, water supply, sanitation and basic education, which draw on UNICEF experience in other parts of the world;

"(c) Support for the preparation of situation analyses of children and national programmes of action as guidelines for the above.

"67. This support would be provided through technical assistance and information exchange, including the organization of workshops, study visits, etc. Where possible and appropriate, these should be provided in collaboration with the United Nations and other agencies.

"...

"70. With regard to field locations, experience has shown that, in a few cases, the posting of an international staff member funded from supplementary funds may be necessary to ensure monitoring and creative policy interaction. At present, this is the case in Romania (since January 1991), Yugoslavia (since November 1991) and Albania (since March 1992). The provision of exceptional support in other countries may require other such assignments in a few cases. In those places, field positions would be project posts funded from supplementary funds. The uncertainty of the situation and likely short-term nature of assistance would make the establishment of core posts inappropriate. UNICEF is strongly committed to locating any staff, wherever possible, in a general United Nations office, according to policies on common premises already agreed upon by the Board. Consultations are already under way with UNDP in this regard.

"71. In addition to the above, the Executive Director should be authorized to provide, on an exceptional basis and in response tc specific requests, programme support for children and women in vulnerable situations, using supplementary funding provided from special contributions using normal UNICEF procedures. UNICEF would accept such contributions on the understanding that donors would not reduce their ongoing contributions to UNICEF for work in developing countries.

5. Decides that for 1992-1994, funding for advocacy and policy work in Central and Eastern Europe, the Baltic States and the Commonwealth of Independent States ($1 million additional in 1992; $2 million per year for 1993-1994), plus funds to cover two additional international Professional and two additional General Service posts, be utilized from the administrative and programme support budget, and further requests the Executive Director to include this appropriately in this budget;

6. Authorizes the Executive Director to provide, on a temporary basis and under exceptional circumstances, technical assistance to non-qualifying countries from supplementary funds;

7. Requests the Executive Director to submit to the Executive Board country programme recommendations for establishing national programmes in countries satisfying criteria for UNICEF assistance, to be financed from general resources and especially through supplementary funds;

8. Invites all countries, in particular those developed countries in a position to do so, to consider increasing their contributions to UNICEF so that it may meet the growing demand for funds without reducing its assistance to developing countries;

9. Supports the establishment, where appropriate, and development of National Committees for UNICEF;

10. Requests the Executive Director to review this support and to report to the Executive Board at its 1993 regular session on the situation and needs of children and women, as well as on the implementation of UNICEF programmes and activities in the countries concerned.

(continued)

"72. In addition to exceptional expenditures on this basis, the Executive Director should be authorized to encourage other organizations and agencies to respond to the urgent needs of children in Central and Eastern European and CIS countries. To avoid a diversion of resources, UNICEF should advocate particularly for the deployment in the interests of children resources previously committed to military purposes. In order to facilitate the operations of other agencies, UNICEF procurement services may be used for the provision of essential drugs and other urgently needed supplies.

"...

"74. Such programmes would be based on recommendations to be prepared and presented to the Executive Board. Pending examination of these recommendations, and taking into account the acute and continuing needs identified by the UNICEF/WHO collaborative missions carried out in February 1992, emergency funds may be deployed to respond to short-term critical needs as they arise.

"75. In the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the CIS that would normally not be eligible for UNICEF programme cooperation, the Executive Director should be authorized, on an exceptional basis, to provide limited assistance to meet the most urgent needs of women and children through funds that might be made available in response to a special emergency appeal in line with normal UNICEF practice. The Executive Director should also be authorized to make available the services of the UNICEF warehouse at Copenhagen for reimbursable procurement of essential supplies and equipment to meet the urgent needs of women and children during the difficult transition period of the next two to three years."

1992/20. Children and mothers: victims of the Chernobyl disaster

On the recommendation of the Programme Committee,

The Executive Board,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 45/190 of 21 December 1990 and 46/150 of 18 December 1991,

Affirming its decision 1991/21,

Bearing in mind the provisions of the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and the Plan of Action for Implementing the Declaration in the 1990s related to children in especially difficult circumstances, including those victims of man-made disasters who are exposed to radiation,

1. Urges the Executive Director, as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 46/150, to continue the consideration of possible technical and other specialized assistance and specific actions to children and mothers living in the areas most affected by the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, particularly in Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, in close cooperation with the United Nations Coordinator of International Cooperation for Chernobyl, taking into account the Joint Plan of international cooperation to mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster;

2. Requests the Executive Director to continue to provide, in full coordination and cooperation with efforts envisaged by the United Nations system, all appropriate support and assistance to children and mothers who are victims of the Chernobyl disaster;

3. Also requests the Executive Director to report to the Executive Board at its 1993 session on progress made in the above-mentioned activities as a part of the report of the Executive Director.

1992/21. Ensuring child survival, protection and development in Africa

On the recommendation of the Programme Committee,

The Executive Board,

Recalling its decision 1991/13, and its decision 1990/9,

Mindful of the many developments seriously affecting children and women in Africa,

Recalling with appreciation the commitment of the international community and UNICEF to Africa as the region of greatest need and highest priority at present, particularly bearing in mind the pressures of new developments on UNICEF resources,

Emphasizing the importance of ensuring sustainability in UNICEF programmes aimed at the significant role of women in child survival, protection and development through enhancing national capacity-building,

Taking note of the significant number of under-funded and unfunded supplementary funding programmes in Africa,

Bearing in mind the Organization of African Unity (OAU) resolution CM/Res. 1360 (LIV) on convening an international conference on assistance to African children in the context of the follow-up of the World Summit for Children,

1. Reaffirms the commitment of UNICEF to Africa as the region of highest priority at present and its commitment to assist those countries to fulfil the goals of the 1990s, as confirmed at the World Summit for Children;

2. Calls upon UNICEF, in collaboration with other relevant United Nations agencies and the international community, to continue providing emergency assistance to refugee and displaced women and children, particularly those living in areas

affected by armed conflict and natural disasters, inter alia, drought and desertification, in accordance with its mandate;

3. Requests UNICEF to undertake all possible measures to continue translating this priority into reality through, inter alia:

(a) Increasing its fund-raising efforts for supplementary funding of programmes in Africa, with the aim of increasing substantially the proportion of comprehensively funded programmes within the biennium;

(b) Strengthening national capacity for the purpose of sustainability;

4. Notes that some African countries have finalized their national programmes of action; and calls upon the recipient countries to re-examine their national programmes and financial resources in order to give priority to children, as called for in the World Declaration and Plan of Action on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children of the World Summit for Children;

5. Calls upon the donor community to increase further its development cooperation in Africa in order to assist in the achievement of the goals laid out in the Declaration and Plan of Action of the World Summit for Children;

6. Takes note of the OAU initiative to convene an International Conference on Assistance to African Children in Dakar, Senegal, on 25-27 November 1992;

7. Calls upon:

(a) All States, as well as relevant international organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), to participate actively, and at the highest possible level, for the success of the OAU Conference;

(b) The African countries that have not yet done so, to complete their national programmes of action before the conference;

(c) UNICEF to continue to support OAU as appropriate for the success of the conference;

8. Urges further other United Nations agencies, NGOs and multilateral financial institutions to participate, within their fields of competence, in the achievement in Africa of the goals of the Declaration and Plan of Action of the World Summit for Children;

9. Requests UNICEF to support the efforts of African countries to examine the long-term funding requirements for implementing the national programmes of action of their countries, so as to identify ways of mobilizing international funds to supplement national resources aimed at achieving the goals of the Summit Declaration and Plan of Action;

10. Requests the Executive Director to report to the Executive Board at its 1993 regular session on the implementation of the present decision, including this recommendation for future activities in ensuring child survival, protection and development in Africa.

1992/22. UNICEF support to Bamako Initiative activities: community-focused health sector development

On the recommendation of the Programme Committee,

The Executive Board,

Recalling previous Executive Board decisions on the Bamako Initiative and the sustainability of health services,

Reaffirming the absolute need to ensure that women and children can have access to relevant, good quality and effective health care, education and social services that are sustainable within currently available levels of recurrent resources,

Acknowledging that UNICEF support to Bamako Initiative activities has increased the involvement of communities in the planning and management of their health care and led to the regeneration of local-level institutions,

Endorsing the recommendations of the evaluation of the Bamako Initiative as presented in document E/ICEF/1992/L.20,

Noting that this community-focused approach to health sector development, and the activities of the World Health Organization (WHO) Action Programme on Essential Drugs, have the potential to improve women's and children's access to effective health care,

1. Calls upon UNICEF to continue to promote the community-focused approach to health sector development both within and beyond Africa, in close collaboration with WHO;

2. Requests UNICEF to undertake further field-level operational research, drawing on a range of in-country experiences, to refine the community-focused approach so that it:

(a) Increases the likelihood that community members most in need are able to benefit from high-quality and effective health care services;

(b) Attempts to incorporate alternative financing, including operational research on community health insurance schemes, and/or exemptions as mechanisms to cover those who cannot pay for health care services;

(c) Helps to mobilize and increase the capacity of local populations in efforts to improve their health situation;

3. Requests UNICEF to increase the impact of the community-focused approach by studying (in close cooperation with national, bilateral and other international agencies) its potential to dovetail with policies for the financial and managerial reform of national health systems;

4. Requests UNICEF:

(a) To identify and study other successful examples of community-focused initiatives;

(b) To examine the potential for, and risks of, applying the community-focused approach to the other sectors;

5. Requests the Executive Director to ensure that UNICEF has adequate capacity - at headquarters and in the field - to coordinate the tasks of policy and programme development and operational research, without diminishing resources available to country programmes, and in close collaboration with other relevant organizations, in particular WHO;

6. Calls, in the context of the Bamako Initiative, for further elaboration of the UNICEF health strategy and a progress report on the implementation of the Initiative to be presented at the 1994 regular Executive Board session.

1992/23. Strengthening national capacities

On the recommendation of the Programme Committee,

The Executive Board,

Having considered the report on UNICEF health policies and strategies: sustainability, integration and national capacity-building, contained in document E/ICEF/1992/L.7,

Recalling its decision 1991/11 on the role of UNICEF in support of the establishment of sustainable national health care systems,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 44/211 of 22 December 1989 on United Nations operational activities for development,

Convinced that to achieve UNICEF objectives in favour of children, with a long-term development impact, it is essential that programmes for that purpose be designed and implemented, in accordance with national objectives, under the responsibility of the country concerned,

Requests the Executive Director:

(a) To ensure that national capacity-building is an integral component specifically addressed in all relevant UNICEF programmes in the areas of the formulation of policies and the selection of programme priorities, as well as the design, implementation and evaluation of national programmes and projects;

(b) To include in his annual report to the Executive Board, from 1993 onwards, a section on measures taken with regard to strengthening national capacities.

1992/24. Evaluation

On the recommendation of the Programme Committee,

The Executive Board

1. Reaffirms, in order to assure that all programme areas supported by UNICEF in a country are evaluated in the course of a specific country programme, its decision 1990/4 (E/ICEF/1990/13) that a past review of evaluations and their use as well as a summary of the evaluation plan and structure be included in all country programmes submitted to the Executive Board, that it include evaluations in all of the programme areas assisted;

2. Decides that:

(a) Evaluation at the country programme level, besides being a project-focused effort, should increasingly address programme-level activities and should assess, in a more integrated manner, urban and rural area-based services programmes;

(b) UNICEF should complete the development of, and make available, an enhanced evaluation database at country, regional and global levels to monitor evaluation implementation and to facilitate the learning process;

(c) Headquarters, regional and country offices should examine and, when necessary, take steps to ensure that, as part of the next budget process, the necessary financial and staff resources are available for implementing evaluation plans and for monitoring the use of results;

(d) A three- or four-year thematic rolling evaluation plan should be established as the basis for guiding the assessment of the principal programme areas, strategies and critical factors relevant to UNICEF collaboration, and should be the basis for guiding policy and programme development. Critical factors assessed should include the sustainability of programme action, impact on the poorest groups, development and empowerment benefits for women, stimulation of

community participation, social mobilization and the achievement of cost-effectiveness;

(e) Joint evaluations with donors should be continued and intensified. Collaboration with other international and bilateral organizations on operational and applied research, as well as evaluations, should be reinforced where ongoing and should be initiated where it is relevant to areas of activity not yet receiving appropriate attention;

(f) Steps should be taken to strengthen collaboration with Governments on evaluation in order to address the capacity-building and institutional-strengthening requirements through the country programme. Emphasis should be on national and local institutions at the country level, and on inter-institutional links between countries. When useful and required, links with institutions with an international outreach should be encouraged;

(g) Over the next two years, in the context of an overall organizational emphasis, priority for evaluation capacity-building and institutional-strengthening should be given to selected countries in sub-Saharan Africa. In order to improve problem-solving, decision-making and budgeting processes, special attention should be paid to strengthening both subnational and national capacities to assess and plan programme activities, based on evaluation results.

1992/25. Education for development

On the recommendation of the Programme Committee,

The Executive Board,

Confirming the relevance of education for development as a means of sensitizing young people world wide to global issues,

Recognizing education for development as a means of developing in young people important attitudes of peace, tolerance, solidarity, social justice and environmental awareness,

Reconfirming the role education for development plays in helping young people acquire the necessary skills that will empower them to promote these values and bring about change in their own lives and in their communities, both locally and globally, in keeping with the call of the Declaration of the World Summit for Children that young people be partners in implementing its Plan of Action,

Recognizing education for development as a highly effective means, not only of promoting the Convention on the Rights of the Child among young people world wide, but also of helping them relate it to their own lives and communities,

Continuing to recognize the wide variety of educational, cultural and national contexts in which education for development must take place,

1. Calls upon the Executive Director to continue to work with National Committees for UNICEF in the area of education for development;

2. Calls upon the Executive Director to encourage National Committees to continue to place education for development in a central role within their advocacy strategies, particularly those which relate to the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

3. Urges the Executive Director to encourage all National Committees to intensify their outreach to young people in their countries through education for development, particularly by strengthening partnerships with practitioners in the various educational sectors and with the producers of television, radio and publications for young people;

4. Encourages the Executive Director to seek opportunities to integrate education for development in curricular development and reform, teacher and facilitator training, and other educational activities in developing countries;

5. Further encourages the Executive Director and National Committees for UNICEF to develop links and partnerships between educators in different countries and regions world wide to encourage exchanges of experience;

6. Urges the Executive Director to maintain and strengthen contact with other United Nations agencies, particularly the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and with relevant non-governmental organizations and with institutions and individuals in the professional education community working in the field of education for development.

1992/26. The role of UNICEF in combating the human immune deficiency virus (HIV)/acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS)

On the recommendation of the Programme Committee,

The Executive Board,

Recognizing that the human immune deficiency virus (HIV) and acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) seriously threaten the social, economic and health status of men, women and children world-wide, and that the AIDS pandemic has the potential in some areas for eliminating the gains made through the child survival and development revolution,

Recalling its decisions 1988/7, 1990/18 and 1991/23 endorsing the Executive Director's recommendations that UNICEF undertake programme efforts to combat AIDS, particularly among women and children, provide a policy framework for these efforts and prepare an HIV/AIDS strategy,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 46/203 of 20 December 1991, Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/66 of 26 July 1991, World Health Assembly resolution WHA 45.35 of 14 May 1992, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) decision 92/14 of 26 May 1992, and the World Health Organization (WHO) Global Programme on AIDS/Global Management Committee (GPA/GMC) (8)/92.14 of 12 June 1992,

Noting that Executive Board decision 1991/23 requested the Executive Director to report in 1992 on developments in the strategy and implementation of programmes to combat HIV/AIDS that have occurred since the 1989 progress report to the Board,

Noting further the absence of any resource allocations in the Executive Director's report,

Bearing in mind that 8 million to 10 million adults and 1 million children are believed to be infected with HIV and that it is estimated that this number will more than quadruple to 40 million in the next eight years,

Considering that more than 3 million women world-wide are already infected with HIV, and millions more are vulnerable, and that the transmission of HIV from pregnant women to their infants is now having a major adverse impact on child health,

Recognizing the work that UNICEF has undertaken thus far related to AIDS, tempered by the knowledge that much more needs to be done world-wide,

Further recognizing that approximately one third of the infants born to HIV-infected mothers will themselves be infected,

Noting the report "UNICEF programme approach to the prevention of the human immune deficiency virus/acquired immune deficiency syndrome" (E/ICEF/1992/L.11) and its emphasis on educational, "society-focused" intervention, and the recommendations made in the report,

Taking into account the comparative advantages of UNICEF, including, inter alia, social mobilization, communication at the grass-roots level, support for programmes and actions for children in difficult circumstances, as well as the role of UNICEF as an integral partner in development programmes for HIV/AIDS-vulnerable women and youth,

Taking further into account the important role of UNICEF in alleviating the economic and social consequences of the AIDS pandemic affecting women, uninfected children with HIV-infected parents or those orphaned by AIDS,

1. Requests the Executive Director to take immediate further steps, in close coordination with the WHO/GPA, UNDP, other United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations and donors, to strengthen the coordination and to accelerate global efforts, including the establishment of and participation in an International AIDS Coordination Forum; and taking into account UNICEF comparative advantage as well as the normative and technical role of WHO/GPA in the overall coordination of international efforts to combat AIDS and the results of the debate on HIV/AIDS of the Coordination Segment of the regular session of the Economic and Social Council in 1992;

2. Urges UNICEF to strengthen collaboration with other United Nations agencies, particularly WHO/GPA and UNDP, to ensure both complementarity and effectiveness of UNICEF activities at the country level in the context of the Global AIDS Strategy and within broadened and strengthened individual country medium-term plans, which are designed to combat HIV/AIDS;

3. Urges the UNICEF Executive Director to give priority to the acceleration by UNICEF of society-focused interventions intended to promote mutual fidelity and responsible sexual behaviour, reduce gender disparity, improve the socio-economic status of women and reduce the vulnerability of youth to sexual and other exploitation;

4. Requests the Executive Director, in coordination with relevant government ministries, to strengthen the role of UNICEF in combating HIV/AIDS, in light of the updated Global Strategy for the Prevention and Control of AIDS approved by the World Health Assembly in resolution WHA 45.35 and the outcome of discussions in June 1992 of the Global Management Committee of the WHO/GPA, to include:

(a) Support to non-governmental, community-based groups which have been shown to play an essential and often unique role in HIV/AIDS prevention, care and community support;

(b) Strengthened efforts, within its mandate, to alleviate the economic and social consequences of the AIDS pandemic;

(c) A particular focus on the problems of AIDS orphans;

(d) Procurement and distribution of internationally approved drugs for the treatment of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs);

(e) Greater attention to the design and implementation of STD and AIDS prevention programmes, in particular programmes for women, in addition to those proposed in the UNICEF strategy for youth;

(f) Strengthen country capacity to design and implement reproductive health programmes, which include access to information and appropriate preventive and curative supplies and services, particularly for youth, with respect for ethical and cultural considerations;

(g) Support to HIV/AIDS programmes for in-school and out-of-school youth, including programmes for children infected with the AIDS virus, in close collaboration with other United Nations agencies;

5. Requests the Executive Director to provide a breakdown of global resource allocations by type of programme, by country, object of expenditure, source of funding and staffing at headquarters and in country offices;

6. Requests the Executive Director to review the UNICEF AIDS programme approach to ensure its consistency with the Global AIDS Strategy and make refinements as necessary;

7. Requests the Executive Director to reconsider, in close collaboration with WHO, the present guidelines for breast-feeding for HIV-positive women, in view of the high risk of malnutrition involved and the general decrease of breast-feeding practices which might result from these guidelines.

8. Requests the Executive Director to include in his report to the Executive Board at its 1993 session information on the implementation of the present decision.

1992/27. Acute respiratory infections

On the recommendation of the Programme Committee,

The Executive Board

1. Endorses the following actions in order to reduce morbidity and mortality caused by acute respiratory infections (ARI), especially in infants and children under five years of age, and decides that the progress made be reported annually in the report of the Executive Director:

(a) Support to ARI control at the national level. While inclusion of ARI control activities in area-based primary health care initiatives, or as part of initial efforts to strengthen district-level health services, is encouraged, UNICEF involvement will be based on support to national ARI control programmes and control activities throughout the country, integrated with other efforts to reduce and prevent infant and young child mortality and morbidity;

(b) Building on existing structures. During the past few years, efforts in some countries to expand immunization coverage have considerably strengthened supply distribution, service delivery networks and other aspects of national health systems. ARI control activities will take full advantage of these improvements and be fully integrated into the basic package of health services offered by peripheral and first-level facilities;

(c) Establishment of clear national policies and plans of action. National policies and plans of action are an essential first step in the development of ARI control programmes. UNICEF will limit support to ad hoc ARI control activities (i.e., the provision of drugs) in countries where this process is not completed or well under way;

(d) Sustainability of ARI control programmes. Effective ARI control requires a functioning health system that can regularly train and supervise staff, provide adequate quantities of antibiotics to all health facilities and handle severe pneumonia or illness through referral to major hospitals. In countries where health systems cannot meet this challenge, emphasis will be given to strengthening the operation and management of health facilities (especially at district and local levels) before ARI control activities are initiated. The establishment of drugs logistics systems, in line with the principles of the Bamako Initiative, will also be encouraged. This process should result in greater community involvement, management and control over local health facilities;

(e) Involvement of community health workers (CHWs) in the diagnosis and treatment of pneumonia. The incidence of death from pneumonia is highest among young children (e.g., under six months of age) and in the poorest, most isolated areas. For these reasons, the involvement of CHWs in locating, treating and referring cases of pneumonia is essential to the long-term viability of control efforts. As soon as adequate services are established in first-level health facilities, national programmes will be encouraged to identify village health workers or CHWs who can be trained either to refer cases to the health system or to act as front-line providers of standard case management;

(f) Full involvement of mothers and communities. Mothers must be taught to recognize signs of serious illness, seek help when necessary and comply with treatment instructions. To do so, efforts must be made to find out what mothers already know and reinforce healthy practices while discouraging negative ones. Without the full involvement of communities, the youngest, most vulnerable children cannot be reached on a sustained, reliable basis. Communications efforts will be promoted to support these activities;

2. Decides that during the next few years, UNICEF will continue to provide support in the following areas:

(a) Adaptation of technically sound norms for diagnosis and treatment, including their application by such health personnel as CHWs, as appropriate;

(b) Training and supervision in the standard case management of ARI, both for health workers at the clinic level and at first-referral facilities and for CHWs in various settings;

(c) Provision of appropriate drugs in reasonable quantities at the initial stage. One of the key objectives of all ARI programmes must be to provide the right drug, to the right child, at the right time, for the right duration. This will be built into the drugs logistics system based on the principles of the Bamako Initiative and supported, controlled and managed by the communities;

(d) Development of sound communication strategies that are fully integrated into national programmes and supportive of reliable, well-established services. First priority will be given to the design and production of teaching and information materials for use by health workers in face-to-face interaction with caretakers of young children. Once standard case management is well established at first-level health facilities and, where appropriate, among CHWs, more extensive, innovative communication activities will be developed, through radio, television and other mass media;

(e) Provision of appropriate technology for the diagnosis and treatment of pneumonia, including timers for counting respiratory rates and oxygen concentrators for use at small hospitals and clinics;

(f) Prevention of pneumonia by ensuring access to immunization, good nutrition and a healthy environment and by promoting breast-feeding. While the initial emphasis of control programmes must be on improving case management to reduce ARI-related mortality, efforts must begin early to reduce the incidence of the disease. Immunization against measles and pertussis is the most effective preventive measure available at present. The development of vaccines against pneumococcus and Haemophilus influenzae will also receive priority support. Furthermore, UNICEF will support the improvement of interventions to reduce both host and environmental risk factors (e.g., better nutrition and reduced air pollution).

1992/28. UNICEF policy on family planning

On the recommendation of the Programme Committee,

The Executive Board,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 1989/91 and 1991/93 on the International Conference on Population and Development, as well as General Assembly resolution 45/216 of 21 December 1990 on population and development,

Recalling also its decisions 1990/7 and 1991/11,

Taking note of the joint report on collaborative programming activities of UNICEF and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in document E/ICEF/1992/L.13,

1. Requests the Executive Director to contribute substantively to the 1994 Conference on Population and Development;

2. Urges the Executive Director to enhance UNICEF cooperation with all involved agencies and organizations, particularly UNFPA and the World Health Organization, each within its own mandate, as well as non-governmental organizations, at the field level, establishing and monitoring indicators of collaboration in order to support family planning in the context of sustainable national health care systems;

3. Further requests the Executive Director to submit a policy paper on the involvement of UNICEF in family planning, taking into account the health of the child and the mother. This paper should be presented for the Board's consideration at its regular session in 1993, with a view to approving it prior to the International Conference on Population and Development in 1994.

1992/29. UNICEF/WHO Joint Committee on Health Policy

On the recommendation of the Programme Committee,

The Executive Board,

Noting the report of the UNICEF/World Health Organization (WHO) Joint Committee on Health Policy (JCHP) special session held at WHO Headquarters in Geneva on 30-31 January 1992,

Endorses the following recommendations contained in paragraphs 23, 29, 42, 45, 52, 56 and 61 of document E/ICEF/1992/L.18:

I. WORLD SUMMIT FOR CHILDREN: FOLLOW-UP ACTION

1. The principal action to be supported by WHO and UNICEF is the strengthening of the national health system with a focus on the district health system based on primary health care (PHC). JCHP recommends that priority attention be given to:

(a) Training and supervision of all categories of national personnel with an emphasis on the team approach;

(b) Logistics and supplies in particular drugs, vaccines and other needs (on which programmes such as the Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI), the Global Programme on AIDS, as well as programmes on diarrhoeal diseases, acute respiratory infections (ARI), malaria and schistosomiasis depend); this requires intensified use of the Action Programme on Essential Drugs, the Bamako Initiative, other community-based initiatives, and the UNICEF field operation support system;

(c) Community and health education to serve the interests of all programmes by creating public awareness and supplying the basic knowledge people need to take charge of their own health, a critical factor for example in the prevention and control of AIDS - extensive promotion of the booklet, Facts for Life, 5/ will empower families to improve their health and strengthen linkages between the community and local health services;

(d) Community involvement and empowerment to ensure people's full

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5/ Joint UNICEF, WHO and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) publication, available from UNICEF, New York.

participation in planning for and meeting their own needs;

(e) Surveillance, information gathering, monitoring and evaluation with the aim of strengthening national epidemiological capacity to enhance the delivery of strategies, better manage the supply line, and more effectively monitor impact and quality control at all levels of the health system, in particular the district health system, as well as within each programme area; the crucial element to be promoted is routine information exchange to obtain and feed back regular assessments of programme progress as well as suggestions from health workers about solving operational problems;

(f) Biomedical and operational research to harness science to improve the available tools to strengthen the biomedical research required to ensure the highest possible technical standards, and to meet the management needs of the system.

2. JCHP recommends the following specific programme areas, among others, for collaboration between WHO and UNICEF in support of countries:

(a) Reduction of infant and child mortality - ensuring that in all activities related to reduction of infant mortality there is (i) better application of epidemiological principles and methods; and (ii) the screening of every child brought to a health clinic for any reason, and the linkage of care to ensure that the other elements of health promotion, protection and care are provided;

(b) Women's health, safe motherhood and newborn care - (i) extending technical cooperation in the development of national programmes for maternal and neonatal health within PHC, and encouraging national programmes to establish a focal point for the programme; (ii) research on the organization of maternal health services, and on interventions and programme management of specific conditions such as postpartum haemorrhage and anaemia, unclean delivery/obstetric sepsis, hypertensive diseases of pregnancy, and unwanted pregnancy and unsafe abortion; (iii) training and community education in the context of the district health system; and (iv) the analysis of data from various databases on maternal and newborn health to be issued periodically to facilitate advocacy and information dissemination;

(c) EPI - (i) developing overall immunization plans of action within PHC through the formation and strengthening of technical advisory groups at regional and country level; (ii) training in the management of immunization programmes and disease surveillance and control to strengthen the managerial capacity for implementing PHC activities; (iii) research on improved disease control strategies, improved methods and materials for diagnosis of the EPI target diseases, improved surveillance and programme monitoring tools, and improved methods and materials for the cold-chain and logistic support; (iv) ensuring the supply of vaccines including new vaccines, as well as the quality of vaccines, in the face of increasing costs;

(d) Diarrhoeal diseases - (i) mobilization and advocacy at the highest political level; (ii) promoting correct home management of diarrhoea; (iii) training at all levels of the health system with special emphasis on four-day clinical training courses at health centres and small hospitals; (iv) establishing oral rehydration therapy (ORT) units; (v) ensuring availability of oral rehydration salts (ORS); (vi) improving communications - both interpersonal and by way of the mass media and health education; (vii) evaluation through health facility surveys, household surveys and programme reviews; and (viii) prevention, including promotion of breast-feeding, especially exclusive breast-feeding for the first four to six months of life, measles immunization and personal and food hygiene;

(e) ARI - case management is the essential strategy to avert pneumonia deaths and make an immediate impact on mortality from ARI; WHO and UNICEF will concentrate their support to countries on (i) sound technical and managerial policies and planning, including measures which will enable control activities to reach the people; (ii) training in all these aspects; (iii) ethnographic studies to serve as

the basis for local adaptation of generic communication messages; (iv) development of a checklist for supervision of case management; (v) ensuring supplies, particularly through the essential drugs programme and the Bamako Initiative; (vi) monitoring and evaluation of programme activities and health systems research;

(f) Nutrition - WHO/UNICEF collaborative activities include supporting countries (i) to develop and strengthen national nutrition policies; (ii) to combat deficiencies in iodine (in order to eliminate goitre, cretinism and related disorders), vitamin A deficiencies (to combat blindness) and iron deficiencies (to fight nutritional anaemia); (iii) to bring protein-energy malnutrition under control through strategies to ensure household food security, correcting inappropriate feeding practices (particularly in women and children) and to prevent and manage infection and parasite infestation, with a special focus on least developed countries and pockets of poverty in others; (iv) to develop national nutritional surveillance capabilities, strengthen nutrition-related information, education and training, and foster nutrition research;

- An action plan emanating from the major international conference on micronutrient malnutrition jointly convened in October 1991, in Montreal, had been drawn up for presentation to the WHO Executive Board 6/ and the World Health Assembly in 1992: WHO and UNICEF will support country efforts leading to virtual elimination of vitamin A deficiency and iodine deficiency diseases and significant reduction of iron deficiency anaemia; jointly sponsored workshops on micronutrient deficiencies will also be convened at the regional level;

(g) Breast-feeding - common actions include: (i) advocacy and health education adapted to socio-cultural settings; (ii) development of education and information materials; (iii) promoting lactation management and breast-feeding training through a regional network of training centres; (iv) encouraging the provision of social support for breast-feeding women; (v) technical support for the national application of the International Code of Marketing of Breast Milk Substitutes; (vi) operational research, in particular to facilitate the achievement by all women of the infant feeding ideal set out in the Innocenti Declaration;

- The joint launching and support given to the WHO/UNICEF "baby-friendly" hospital initiative provides a focus and starting point for country and community-based action on many of these activities; promotion and support of the concept of "baby-friendly" hospitals should result in their establishment all over the world by the end of 1992;

(h) Water and sanitation - the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for the Water and Sanitation Sector was signed in March 1990; data relevant to the achievement of the World Summit goals are to be obtained from studies on rural and urban populations with access to safe water supply and sanitation, and on utilization of these systems especially by low-income groups; the Joint Monitoring Programme is planned to be implemented throughout the 1990s with the initial seven countries acting as regional focal points;

(i) Dracunculiasis (guinea worm disease) - WHO and UNICEF will continue to work together to improve and implement: (i) community surveillance methodologies; (ii) vector control strategies; (iii) case containment strategies; (iv) mapping of remote villages; (v) strategies for targeting and monitoring the impact of water supply;

6/ Document EB89/20.

(j) Malaria control - collaborative efforts will continue in many endemic countries: (i) to identify those populations at risk to malaria and to improve the diagnosis and management of the disease, particularly severe and complicated cases; (ii) to support operational research on the efficacy of impregnated bednets; (iii) to provide intensified support in health education, the provision of essential supplies and in social mobilization;

- Concerning prophylaxis, which is still desirable in pregnancy, it is necessary to weigh the risks and benefits of the drug available in each local situation; the Ministerial Conference on Malaria (Amsterdam, 26-27 October 1992), organized by WHO and supported by UNICEF, will indicate new areas for intensive collaboration;

(k) Schistosomiasis - (i) the pricing structure of the drug praziquantel is being negotiated with manufacturers, and it is anticipated that UNICEF will participate with WHO in this endeavour; (ii) UNICEF-supported water supply programmes will also be encouraged to consider schistosomiasis as a health monitoring indicator wherever appropriate;

(l) Essential drugs - (i) continuing collaborative operational research activities including drug stability during international transport; (ii) the WHO Action Programme on Essential Drugs will continue to work with UNICEF to establish community-based projects supported by strong drug-sector infrastructures; (iii) the programme in collaboration with UNICEF will continue, through information campaigns, to help educate health care providers and the public in general in the rational use of drugs and will strengthen in particular the capacities at the district level through training in drug management, rational use and monitoring;

(m) Prevention and control of AIDS - (i) worldwide advocacy for implementation of AIDS prevention and control activities by many sectors and ministries; (ii) adoption of quantitative programme goals in order to achieve the reduction of infant and child mortality called for by the World Summit; (iii) educational programmes for youth, both in and out of school, emphasizing safer sexual behaviour and the use of condoms as the main preventive strategy; (iv) social and economic support to children orphaned as a consequence of AIDS, especially in sub-Saharan Africa; (v) collaboration on research and development of vaccines and on interventions to reduce female vulnerability; (vi) using the Bamako Initiative to provide essential drugs for treatment of sexually transmitted diseases and opportunistic infections;

(n) Healthy life-styles for youth - (i) collaboration with other organizations such as the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and youth non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to promote policies and programmes for adolescent health in a variety of international forums; (ii) development of a strategic, long-term plan for joint country activities to be implemented using the integrated, intersectoral and inter-agency approach recommended by JCHP; (iii) initiation of a joint pilot training programme in three countries for personnel working with street children to better deal with the problems associated with substance abuse.

Monitoring and evaluation

3. JCHP recommends that immediate action be taken on the following in areas relating to health, taking into account the discussion in the Committee:

(a) The responsible technical programme in WHO, in consultation with counterparts in UNICEF, to confirm the definitions of proposed indicators related to each health goal;

(b) UNICEF and WHO to identify and agree upon the set of core primary indicators to be initially used for global monitoring;

(c) Prepare a monitoring guideline to be issued, which, as a minimum, should

contain: (i) the agreed principles for monitoring the World Summit goals; (ii) the criteria for acceptable indicators; (iii) the current list of proposed indicators giving for each the agreed technical definition, the recommended sources of data and methods of data collection; (iv) the list of types of country level collaboration which UNICEF and WHO can jointly provide from country, regional, and global levels;

(d) Strengthen collaboration with the United Nations Statistical Office, the United Nations Development Programme and UNFPA by broadening a proposed project for monitoring social (human) development beyond household survey methods to include a variety of data sources, and the involvement of a number of agencies in a coordinated manner; a special effort to develop and document methods for measuring mortality and its causes should be included in this proposal, for implementation by the WHO programme on epidemiological surveillance and health situation and trend assessment;

(e) Coordinate monitoring methods development with the World Bank programme on social dimensions of adjustment and the United States Agency for International Development demographic and health survey activity;

(f) Compile a description of indicator databases maintained by various programmes in WHO, Geneva, and UNICEF, New York, to facilitate data-sharing and to reduce duplicate database maintenance;

(g) Compile and share a schedule of global, regional and country level meetings and workshops on the subject of monitoring and evaluation to be convened by either or both organizations.

4. JCHP recommends that the next steps might be: (a) to finalize jointly the choice and definition of core indicators; (b) to produce jointly monitoring guidelines for the country offices of both organizations; (c) to identify country and regional workshops for training staff and nationals and coordinate the staff and financial support for those workshops; (d) to identify specific countries requiring special efforts for the establishment of baseline data for which support is needed; and, (e) to strive to assure that the national input to the health aspects of the mid-decade review be accomplished through the 1994 Health for All monitoring exercise in order to minimize national reporting burdens and that the guidelines for that report be prepared together with UNICEF.

II. MEETING VACCINE NEEDS FOR THE EXPANDED PROGRAMME ON IMMUNIZATION IN THE 1990s

5. JCHP expressed concern about the potential shortfall of high-quality vaccines for national immunization programmes. The WHO and UNICEF Executive Boards and governing bodies should consider urgent action on the following strategies to avert this emerging crisis:

(a) Support to countries which have the capacity to produce vaccines, noting the national commitment and managerial resources required to produce high-quality vaccines, to become self-sufficient, including support to national control authorities to ensure that such locally produced vaccines are of high quality;

(b) Soliciting the support of the donor community to provide greater resources for the procurement of high-quality vaccines for EPI, as well as to consider ways to encourage vaccine producers to provide vaccines at lower prices;

(c) Facilitating, through the Vaccine Independence Initiative, the procurement of high-quality vaccines on behalf of Governments, either with convertible or local currencies;

(d) Establishing the supply of much greater quantities of vaccines of assured quality through current and/or new sources;

(e) Utilizing the Children's Vaccine Initiative to help make the use of vaccines more effective (by developing products that are heat stable, involve fewer doses, less wastage and longer shelf-life, and have higher efficacy, etc.), to strengthen the epidemiological capacity to guide use of vaccines, to strengthen capacity to assure quality of current and new vaccines, and to develop and strengthen mechanisms for the supply of vaccines;

(f) Reviewing possible mechanisms for establishing multi-year contracts for vaccine purchase.

III. RESPONSE TO THE CHOLERA EPIDEMIC: POINTS FOR ACTION

6. JCHP recommends that WHO and UNICEF assist Governments in providing emergency responses to cholera outbreaks by:

(a) Establishing intersectoral national cholera control committees;

(b) Conducting initial assessments and identification of high-risk groups;

(c) Developing effective surveillance systems to detect outbreaks and track the spread of the disease;

(d) Supporting measures to disinfect water supplies, identify and control likely major sources of food-borne spread, disseminate key health education messages to affected populations and restrict access to contaminated areas;

(e) Establishing/training mobile teams to organize initial activities in newly-affected areas, e.g., set up emergency treatment centres;

(f) Assessing emergency supply needs, procuring these supplies and ensuring timely distribution, e.g., of ORS, intravenous fluids, utensils, antibiotics and laboratory supplies;

(g) Involving community organizations in all phases of emergency action, especially in health education and the setting up of emergency treatment centres.

7. JCHP recommends that WHO and UNICEF assist Governments to achieve cholera preparedness by:

(a) Incorporating cholera control as part of the national diarrhoeal diseases control programme as well as part of five-year programmes of cooperation;

(b) Including cholera control activities as part of the diarrhoeal diseases control component of UNICEF country programmes;

(c) Promoting broad-based community involvement in all aspects of cholera control and prevention, thus empowering communities to respond rapidly and effectively, e.g., through the establishment of community oral rehydration units in cholera-prone areas and among vulnerable groups;

(d) Planning and implementing broad-based health education efforts (through media, schools and other channels) geared towards correct treatment, controlling transmission and preventing cholera incidence;

(e) Consolidating improvements in surveillance, laboratory and reporting systems, which result from experience in controlling cholera outbreaks;

(f) Assessing supply needs, procuring supplies and ensuring timely distribution, especially to particularly cholera-prone areas.

8. JCHP recommends that WHO and UNICEF assist Governments in cholera prevention by:

(a) Developing comprehensive plans for improved water and sanitation systems;

(b) Training food handlers and establishing good manufacturing practices in food processing plants;

(c) Further strengthening health education efforts to promote improved personal, domestic, community and food hygiene practices;

(d) Further improving case management of all diarrhoea episodes, both at home and within health facilities;

(e) Continuing to expand the number and range of ORT providers both within and outside the health system;

(f) Supporting key research projects related to cholera control, e.g., the development of a cholera vaccine, improved formulations of ORS, simple tools for investigation of outbreaks, etc.

IV. MANAGEMENT OF THE DISTRICT HEALTH SYSTEM BASED ON PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

9. JCHP recommends the following common action points for WHO and UNICEF support to the strengthening of district health systems, and submits them to the Executive Boards of WHO and UNICEF for their consideration and endorsement:

(a) The district is the key level of the health system to implement, monitor and expand the health delivery system. Many lessons have been learned from national efforts to improve the management of district health systems, in many cases with support from WHO and UNICEF. The challenge for the future is for WHO and UNICEF to work together effectively and efficiently to further support the strengthening of district health systems through a variety of programme approaches, including the Bamako Initiative;

Country level action - participation and management

(b) Policy analysis and promotion. WHO and UNICEF should work with countries in the analysis of existing policies and programmes, with a view to developing a policy framework to support district health systems. Elements of the required framework include decentralization of health management to the district level, provision for community participation in health development, a strong essential drugs policy, development of appropriate cost-sharing mechanisms, and improved financial management systems. The analysis should ensure that all existing delivery structures, including those of EPI and the programme on maternal and child health and family planning, are reviewed and integrated into the district health system. External agencies are in a key position to cooperate in the provision of technical as well as financial resources to carry out such policy analysis. A variety of processes, which include involvement of national committees and working groups focused on specific issues, can be used to coordinate the reviews and the actions required;

(c) Baseline assessment of progress in implementing PHC at the district level. WHO and UNICEF should work with countries to support and/or assist in sectoral reviews and planning in each of the four areas which have been identified for strengthening of PHC:

(i) Health services delivery. The health system should be reviewed in terms of service content, organization and delivery strategies. Accessibility, coverage and quality of services should be examined, along with management

capacity in such areas as planning and monitoring, supply and management information systems;

(ii) Community participation. Existing experiences should be examined to provide a picture of workable approaches for representation, control and responsibilities. Information should also be obtained on management skills and capacity at the community level, and community skills should be enhanced through such measures as functional literacy and numeracy;

(iii) Resource mobilization and allocation. To fully understand the resource requirements at the district level, information is needed on existing community resources and expenditures. The resource gap can be estimated through an assessment of health service needs and resource requirements, and thus permit an analysis of feasible alternatives for obtaining and managing additional resources;

(iv) Management support. The district health system's capacity and materials for in-service training and supervision, as well as the requirements for staff development support, should be ascertained. Estimates of available capacity for transport and or the procurement and distribution of drugs and supplies are needed as a basis on which to plan support to health workers in these areas;

(d) Planning for the strengthening of district health systems. At the district level, plans should be prepared based on the assessment of health service progress and problems. The planning process should include a prioritization of problems, a listing of corrective actions and the levels at which they should be taken, and the identification of steps to address the problems. A critical element of the plan will be the preparation of a budget which details the recurrent and capital costs of implementing the plan;

(e) Support for training, supervision and logistics. Based on the assessments of the gaps in technical and managerial skills of communities and district staff (see (c)(ii) above), WHO and UNICEF can assist in the development of training materials and the training of trainers to work with communities and health workers;

(f) Support for monitoring, evaluation and operational research. The development of district strategies and plans to address the needs identified in the assessment will necessitate the development of indicators for purposes of regular monitoring and evaluation. WHO and UNICEF should assist in the development of management information systems to facilitate these management processes, enabling comparative indicators to be reviewed across districts as a basis for monitoring the improvement of performance. Persistent problems or those that appear across several districts would warrant the design of operational studies to determine solutions;

(g) Planning and resource mobilization at the national level. WHO and UNICEF should collaborate in the setting of national targets for strengthening district health systems, in terms of health units and districts providing effective health services, population coverage and health status improvements. National plans should be prepared, based on the individual district plans. The national plans should clearly indicate health system inputs and outputs and their phasing. The national plan for district health strengthening should be developed as part of the national plans of action, agreed to by countries at the World Summit for Children, detailing how the national goals for the 1990s will be achieved. The national plan will also indicate how WHO and UNICEF will support national actions under the district approach;

Global and regional level action

(h) Support for national capacity-building. WHO and UNICEF should continue to enhance national capacity for strengthening of district health systems through

various initiatives, including the Bamako Initiative. Intercountry workshops represent one vehicle for this effort. The workshops should address the different fields of joint activity identified above for the country level. In addition, streamlining and adaptation of training materials, and testing their use in different settings, will facilitate the training of district health staff and community representatives in management and technical skills. WHO and UNICEF should facilitate the gathering and dissemination of appropriate and tested staff training materials used by districts in different countries;

(i) Advocacy and coordination. WHO and UNICEF should systematically incorporate advocacy for district health systems into their discussions with government and external agencies. With Governments, the organizations should stress fulfilment of the policy conditions for strengthening district services, in collaboration with other agencies engaged in these areas. In discussions with other international agencies, WHO and UNICEF should encourage involvement in support of district health systems, and should make efforts to coordinate these activities in order to ensure that district goals are most effectively pursued. WHO and UNICEF should also promote the development of alliances with and among NGOs, in order to influence their strategies for support of district health systems;

(j) Monitoring and evaluation. WHO and UNICEF should bring together and disseminate the results of monitoring and evaluation studies carried out at the national level. The organizations should promote the documentation, exchange and adaptation of experiences with district health systems. Progress in district health system strengthening and the Bamako Initiative should be reviewed regularly by the two organizations, based on the monitoring data collected at national level and compared against the targets which have been set by countries;

(k) Operational research. WHO and UNICEF should promote operational research as an applied tool for strengthening management. It could be used for systematic examination of innovations in such areas as community financing, intersectoral action, management improvements, etc. Emphasis should be placed on finding practical solutions to problems which are common to many countries. The findings should be documented, disseminated and followed up.

10. JCHP recommends that the above points form the basis for the beginning of discussions and planning in practical terms between UNICEF and WHO with a view to supporting countries in the management of their district health systems. The two organizations are requested to develop a specific plan of action and to report on this plan, along with the progress made in achieving it, to the next session of the JCHP.

VI. "BABY-FRIENDLY" HOSPITALS: A BREAST-FEEDING INITIATIVE

11. JCHP takes note of the following common action points and recommends their submission to the Executive Boards of UNICEF and WHO for consideration and endorsement. WHO and UNICEF should:

(a) Continue to mobilize various sectors of society globally to be aware of the critical importance of breast-feeding and act accordingly; these sectors include religious institutions, professional organizations, the infant food industry and community organizations;

(b) Strengthen the technical capacity in countries to implement the "baby-friendly" hospital initiative through establishing lactation training and resource centres;

(c) Support countries with programme guidelines to enable them to incorporate the "baby-friendly" hospital initiative in ongoing development of health and nutrition programmes;

(d) Increase the flow of and access to factual information on all areas of infant and child feeding;

(e) Strengthen and extend the existing network of WHO collaborating centres for training of trainers, development of training materials and research, as part of the "baby-friendly" hospital initiative;

(f) Further development, evaluation and widespread application of relevant indicators for infant and young child feeding, for programme monitoring, evaluation and planning, and for certifying a hospital as "baby-friendly";

(g) Facilitate and encourage within-country dialogue and cooperation in support of the "baby-friendly" hospital initiative among the various interested parties, under the direction and guidance of national authorities;

(h) After sufficient experience has been gained with the "baby-friendly" hospital initiative, promote and technically support the extension of the practical application of the concepts of the "baby-friendly" hospital initiative to other aspects of infant and young child nutrition, child survival and maternal health, nutrition, safe motherhood and family planning.

VI. THE ROLE OF UNICEF IN THE PROMOTION AND SUPPORT OF BREAST-FEEDING

12. JCHP endorses, in principle, operative paragraphs 1 to 7 of UNICEF Executive Board decision 1991/22 on the role of UNICEF in the promotion and support of breast-feeding 7/ and recommends their endorsement by WHO and UNICEF.

13. JCHP recognizes the need of a number of countries for additional information regarding marketing practices for breast milk substitutes and recommends the dissemination of this information to help countries in developing national legislation or other suitable action related to implementation of the principles and aim of the International Code of Marketing of Breast Milk Substitutes.

14. In this connection, and in regard to paragraph 6 of UNICEF Executive Board decision 1991/22, JCHP recommends that future studies of marketing practices be conducted by countries, with the assistance of WHO and UNICEF. JCHP encourages the use of the new methodology of the Common Review and Evaluation Framework, inter alia, to support countries in making such reviews. It is understood that the UNICEF Executive Board resolution refers to breast milk substitutes and not infant foods in a broader sense.

VII. DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT REGULAR SESSION OF JCHP

15. It was recommended that, with the consent of the Executive Boards of WHO and UNICEF, the next regular session of JCHP should be held in Geneva immediately following the ninety-first session of the WHO Executive Board in January 1993.

7/ Economic and Social Council. Document E/1991/33, E/ICEF/1991/15, New York, 12 June 1991.

1992/30. UNESCO/UNICEF Joint Committee on Education

On the recommendation of the Programme Committee,

The Executive Board

Noting the report of the third meeting of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)/UNICEF Joint Committee on Education, held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris on 6 and 7 May 1992,

Endorses the following recommendations adopted by the Joint Committee as contained in paragraph 19 of document E/ICEF/1992/L.19:

Conscious of the continuing, major challenge to the world community posed by widespread illiteracy, notably among women, limited access to primary education, poor quality and coverage, and insufficient learning achievement, and aware that urgent action is required to achieve the goals of education for all by the year 2000,

Mindful of the great importance of education, especially for women and girls, in respect of health, family welfare, food security, environmental protection, greater productivity, and the exercise of democratic rights and responsibilities,

Convinced that UNESCO and UNICEF need to strengthen further their cooperation as part of the broad alliance among countries, United Nations organizations, donor agencies, non-governmental organizations, the media and other partners which has emerged from the World Conference on Education for All,

Noting with approval the Cooperative Agreement concluded between the UNESCO and UNICEF secretariats in October 1991, in pursuance of the recommendations made by the Joint Committee on Education at its second meeting,

Having examined the progress of UNESCO/UNICEF cooperation in the various priority areas indicated by the Joint Committee, including areas in which more intensive efforts are needed to advance the common goals,

Having reviewed the outcome of the UNESCO/UNICEF inter-secretariat meeting held in February 1992,

Recommends that the Executive Boards of UNESCO and UNICEF:

(a) Urge the two secretariats to do everything within their mandates to appeal to member countries to assign education for all utmost priority in their national development plans and programmes of action, to take exceptional and unconventional measures to speed up progress towards the education for all goals, turning education into an intersectoral concern of society as a whole;

(b) Call upon heads of Government to assume personal leadership in advocacy, social mobilization and monitoring related to the achievement of the basic education goals for the year 2000;

(c) Support the initiative of the two secretariats to employ varying and appropriately complementary approaches to promote universalization of basic education, keeping in mind that different groups of countries might require different modalities of intervention, and that close cooperation of all Jomtien partners needs to be ensured;

(d) Encourage the two secretariats to maintain and strengthen their existing emphasis on promoting basic education in Africa as well as in all least developed countries;

(e) Endorse in particular the joint initiative to promote education for all in the largest and most populous developing countries, noting that significant progress in the universalization of access and better learning in these countries, which comprise two thirds of the world's population, would represent a decisive step towards the achievement of education for all goals;

(f) Call upon the two secretariats: (i) to develop a major joint strategy on meeting the basic educational needs of women and girls in all regions, emphasizing the urgency and size of the challenge and analysing the indispensable quantum leap in both national and international efforts to advance their education; (ii) to try and translate this strategy immediately into national and international plans of action; and (iii) to present progress made in this vital area to the Summit on Social Development and International Women's Conference to be convened by the United Nations in 1995;

(g) Endorse in particular the collaborative project on analysis and dissemination of key innovations in basic education, as already contained in the UNESCO/UNICEF Cooperative Programme; keeping in mind that such analysis, dissemination and cooperative problem-solving are urgently needed, and that if the goals of quality education for all and especially for women and girls are to be met and major obstacles and problems overcome, such innovations which fashion new modalities and alliances and set new standards must be strongly supported and urgently disseminated;

(h) Also endorse the joint project on monitoring of progress towards education for all goals at country level, stressing that this project must primarily seek to strengthen national capacities in this area, that its methods need to be readily applicable, and that first results should be available by the end of 1992;

(i) Request the two secretariats to give greater attention to the critical need for mass provision of basic learning materials in most developing countries and strengthening of national capacities in this area, by examining the feasibility and likely costs of different strategies, by drawing on national experiences and capacities, making use of the parallel work of other institutions and producing a progress report within one year;

(j) Consider the adequacy of the current and planned capacities of the two secretariats to assume effectively the responsibilities involved in carrying out the present recommendations;

(k) Also request the two secretariats to report on the action taken on the above recommendations to the next International Consultative Forum on Education for All, to be held by the end of 1993.

1992/31. Children, environment and development

On the recommendation of the Programme Committee,

The Executive Board,

Recalling the unanimous adoption of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and Agenda 21 by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development on 14 June 1992 in Rio de Janeiro,

Affirming that our planet must be preserved in order to nurture our children, equally, our children must be better nurtured to preserve our planet,

Welcoming that Agenda 21, inter alia, calls on national Governments to ensure the survival, protection and development of children in accordance with the goals endorsed by the 1990 World Summit for Children and that the interest of children are

to be taken fully into account in the participatory process for sustainable development and environmental improvement,

Taking into account the Convention on the Rights of the Child and recognizing the fundamental need and right of all children to be protected from the manifestations of environmental degradation which impinges on their well-being,

Welcoming that Agenda 21 specifically requests UNICEF to maintain cooperation and collaboration with other organizations of the United Nations, Governments and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to develop programmes for children and programmes to mobilize children in its implementation,

Recalling that UNICEF Executive Board decision 1989/18 provides the broad policy framework for UNICEF action in support of environment and sustainable development,

1. Welcomes that Agenda 21 includes specific chapters/programmes relating to combating poverty, demographic dynamics, health, drinking water supply and sanitation, women, children and youth, NGOs and education, which are of direct relevance to the activities of UNICEF;

2. Takes note that Agenda 21 has requested the respective governing bodies of the United Nations specialized agencies and related organizations to consider ways of strengthening and adjusting activities and programmes in line with Agenda 21, in particular, regarding projects for promoting sustainable development;

3. Reiterates the interlinkage of children, environment and development and emphasizes the need for a human-centred, poverty-alleviating approach to sustainable development, with a specific focus on "primary environmental care" at the community level, raising of awareness among children and youth for their involvement in practical environmental action, and strengthening of existing and new types of partnership in this area;

4. Requests the Executive Director, in this context, to continue to undertake activities within the framework provided by Executive Board decision 1989/18;

5. Also requests the Executive Director to submit at its 1993 regular session a report that incorporates recommendations for the UNICEF response, primarily through country programmes, for effective implementation of relevant parts of Agenda 21 with due consideration to appropriate inter-agency coordination and collaboration;

6. Invites all countries, in particular those developed countries in a position to do so, to provide funding in a way which maximizes the availability of new and additional resources, thereby enabling UNICEF to play its designated role in the implementation of relevant parts of Agenda 21;

7. Decides to incorporate a separate item entitled "Children, environment and development: UNICEF response to implementation of Agenda 21" in the agenda of its 1993 regular session.

1992/32. Field visits

On the recommendation of the Programme Committee,

The Executive Board,

Taking note of decision 90/23 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme, as well as of decision 91/2 of said organization,

Also taking note of the letter of the Chairman of the Joint Consultative Group on Policy (JCGP) of 6 March 1992, in which he announced the suspension of the programme of JCGP field visits,

Considering that field visits of representatives of member states of the Executive Board will contribute to the functioning of the Executive Board, and in particular of the Programme Committee, by providing better insight into UNICEF work in the field,

Decides that:

(a) In consultation with the Executive Director and host Governments, field visits be carried out by representatives of Board member countries;

(b) It shall determine the programme aspects of field visits, and that the specific terms of reference and the methodology for each visit shall be established by team members, in cooperation with the Executive Director and host Governments;

(c) In selecting the participants for these field visits, it shall take into account the equitable representation of the membership of the Executive Board;

(d) It shall select the countries to be visited (no more than two per field visit) and arrange the timing of such visits, in consultation with the Executive Director and the countries concerned;

(e) Participants in field visits shall submit a report to the Programme Committee at the subsequent regular session of the Executive Board;

(f) The Executive Director shall arrange and service up to two field visits per year, each for an average of six members of the Executive Board;

(g) The expenses of participants from developed countries will be paid by these countries, and the expenses of participants from other countries will be covered on a sliding scale from the UNICEF administrative budget.

1992/33. Financial medium-term plan, 1992-1995

On the recommendation of the Committee on Administration and Finance,

The Executive Board

Approves the medium-term plan (E/ICEF/1992/3) as a framework of projections for 1992-1995 (summarized in table 7), including the preparation of up to $400 million in programme expenditures from general resources to be submitted to the 1993 Executive board (shown in table 6, item 4). The amount is subject to the availability of resources and to the condition that estimates of income and expenditure made in this plan continue to be valid.

1992/34. UNICEF financial reports

On the recommendation of the Committee on Administration and Finance,

The Executive Board

Notes the following:

(a) Financial report and statements for the biennium ended 31 December 1991 (E/ICEF/1992/AB/L.7);

(b) Report to the United Nations Board of Auditors and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions regarding General Assembly resolution 46/183 (E/ICEF/1992/AB/L.3);

(c) Review of expenditures in excess of commitments and unspent commitments for completed projects financed by supplementary funds (E/ICEF/1992/AB/L.11).

1992/35. Headquarters office accommodation

On the recommendation of the Committee on Administration and Finance,

The Executive Board,

Having considered the report on headquarters office accommodation (E/ICEF/1992/AB/L.9) and the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) (E/ICEF/1992/AB/L.18),

1. Requests the Executive Director:

(a) To continue to negotiate and refine the proposals already submitted by him and to evaluate any other attractive additional proposals that may be offered;

(b) To continue the review of the non-financial implications of moving most or all of central headquarters from Manhattan;

(c) To submit a recommendation for approval to the Executive Board, through ACABQ, either at the next regular session of the Executive Board in April 1993, or at a special session of the Executive Board called for this purpose, whichever comes first;

2. Authorizes the Executive Director, in order to meet short-term space needs, to lease on a temporary short-term basis, up to a maximum of 15,000 additional gross rentable square feet over the next two years.

1992/36. Recommendations on the structure and format of budget documents

On the recommendation of the Committee on Administration and Finance,

A. Proposed format for global funds programme budgets

The Executive Board

Approves the programme budget policies and the budget formats contained in chapters I to VII in the document on the proposed format for global funds programme budgets (E/ICEF/1992/AB/L.1).

B. Structure and format of the financial medium-term plan

The Executive Board

Notes the structure and format of the financial medium-term plan (E/ICEF/1992/AB/L.12).

C. Income projections

The Executive Board

Notes the income projections (E/ICEF/1992/AB/L.13).

D. Revisions to the budget format for the administrative and programme support budget

The Executive Board

Approves the mock-ups contained in document E/ICEF/1992/AB/L.14 as the basis to revise the associated tables and annexes for the next biennium budget proposal.

E. Criteria for core vs. project posts

The Executive Board

1. Approves the criteria for core and project posts contained in document E/ICEF/1992/AB/L.15;

2. Resolves that the criteria should be applied consistently to all posts at headquarters and in the field;

3. Resolves that the criteria should be used to make appropriate realignments of posts from project to core and from core to project in the upcoming budget review process and that realignments should be presented to the Executive Board in 1993 as part of the administrative and programme support budget and global funds programme budget.

In reviewing the issues in document E/ICEF/1992/AB/L.15, and in beginning the review of various divisions as part of the biennium budget process, it has become apparent that a reorganization of the advisory clusters of the Programme Division needs to be planned. To facilitate more effective management and coordination of advisory services at headquarters, it is proposed that for the 1994-1995 proposed budget, four or five well-defined clusters should be established. Although the planning process for this purpose is still under way, the clusters are likely to be in the areas of health, nutrition, education, water supply/environment/sanitation and an intersectoral cluster to include issues of women, urban child, etc.

The posts heading the programme clusters not only perform the technical advisory functions both at policy and programme levels based on their technical expertise and skills, but also perform management, administrative and leadership functions for their respective clusters, including budget preparation and control, supervision of staff, preparation of work plans, coordination with other sections and representation of the respective clusters within the Programme Division with other parts of the organization, including country and regional offices, and in other key international circles and United Nations agencies.

With these core functions, the posts heading key clusters will be considered as core posts, while other technical posts in the clusters and reporting to the cluster head could be considered as project posts based on their project functions related to technical support in specific programme areas.

F. Budget format for country programme recommendations

The Executive Board

1. Approves the budget formats and the related narrative format proposed for country programme recommendations contained in document E/ICEF/1992/AB/L.17 as the basis to revise the associated tables and annexes for the next biennium budget proposals;

2. Increases the page limitations stipulated by the Bureau in 1990 from 12-14 pages to 13-15 pages for smaller country programme recommendations, and from 16-18 pages to 17-19 pages for medium-sized and longer country programme recommendations, if this is essential to incorporate the additional information proposed in document E/ICEF/1992/AB/L.17.

G. Review of the UNICEF job classification system

The Executive Board

Notes the document on the UNICEF job classification system (E/ICEF/AB/L.16).

1992/37. UNICEF recovery policy

On the recommendation of the Committee on Administration and Finance,

The Executive Board

1. Approves, on an interim basis, the recommendations of the Executive Director as follows:

(a) That the policy of charging a 6 per cent recovery rate to all supplementary-funded projects for non-emergency purposes, excluding those funded by National Committees, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and host Governments funding their own programmes, shall continue;

(b) That a charge of 6 per cent shall be made on all emergency supplementary-funded programmes, excluding those funded by National Committees, NGOs and host Governments funding their own programmes. The amount recovered should cover both incremental overhead costs in field offices and the costs of headquarters-based administrative and support staff working on emergencies and for which prorated posts have been identified and approved by the Board;

(c) That the procedures for assigning and collecting recovery charges should remain as currently established. The recovery amount, averaged over each biennium, should cover both the incremental overhead costs in field offices and administrative and project support staff as prorated to all supplementary-funded projects and for which related posts have been identified and approved by the Board. The recovery rate shall be applied to actual supplementary-funded expenditure in a given budget year, and in the presentation to donors, the 6 per cent recovery charge should be included as a separate budget item;

(d) That the emergency recovery rate shall be applied immediately to all agreements for emergency contributions signed following approval of the policy by the Board;

(e) That the 6 per cent rate for non-emergency and emergency supplementary-funded contributions shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Executive Board;

2. Requests the Executive Director to review all elements of the structure and adequacy of the recovery policy, taking fully into account the views expressed on this issue by delegations, including, inter alia:

(a) Actual overheads incurred for all supplementary-funded programmes both at headquarters and in the field;

(b) Following consultations with the National Committees and the NGO Committee on UNICEF, the implications of the possible extension of the recovery rate to National Committees and NGOs;

(c) The recovery policy of other United Nations agencies and programmes;

(d) The use of interest income earned on supplementary funds prior to their expenditure;

(e) The effect on recovery policy of fluctuations in the level of income received for emergency and non-emergency supplementary-funded programmes;

(f) Other issues identified by delegations at the 1992 Executive Board;

and to submit this review with recommendations for consideration of the Board at its 1994 regular session.

1992/38. UNICEF staffing

On the recommendation of the Committee on Administration and Finance,

The Executive Board

Notes the annual report on the composition of all international Professional core staff and international project staff by title, grade, duty station and nationality as of 1 January 1992 contained in document E/ICEF/1992/AB/L.2.

1992/39. Review of administrative and management structure at UNICEF headquarters

On the recommendation of the Committee on Administration and Finance,

The Executive Board

Defers a decision on whether to proceed with a review, and if so, on its possible scope, until its 1993 regular session.

1992/40. Greeting Card and related operations - work plan and proposed budget for 1992

On the recommendation of the Committee on Administration and Finance,

A. Greeting Card and related operations (GCO) budgeted expenditures for the 1992 season

The Executive Board

1. Approves for the fiscal year 1 May 1992 to 30 April 1993, budgeted expenditures as detailed under "Low Projection" in tables 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 and summarized in column I of table 8 (E/ICEF/1992/AB/L.6);

2. Authorizes the Executive Director:

(a) To incur expenditures as summarized in column I of table 8 and to increase the expenditures up to the level indicated in column II of table 8, should the apparent demand before and during the season necessitate; and, accordingly, to reduce expenditures below the level indicated in column I proportionately to the decrease of the income;

(b) To transfer funds between allotment accounts if necessary within the limits shown in table 8;

(c) To spend an additional amount between Board sessions when necessary, owing to currency fluctuations, to ensure the continued operation of GCO.

B. Budgeted income for the 1992 season

The Executive Board

Notes that for the fiscal year 1 May 1992 to 30 April 1993, gross GCO income is budgeted as shown in column I of table 8 (E/ICEF/1992/AB/L.6).

1992/41. Greeting Card and related operations - financial reports

On the recommendation of the Committee on Administration and Finance,

The Executive Board

Notes the following:

(a) The GCO financial report and accounts for the 1990 season for the year ended 30 April 1991 (E/ICEF/1992/AB/L.5);

(b) The GCO provisional report for the 1991 season (covering the period 1 May 1991-30 April 1992) (E/ICEF/1992/AB/L.4).

1992/42. Central and Eastern Europe, the Baltic States and the Commonwealth of Independent States

On the recommendation of the Committee on Administration and Finance,

The Executive Board

Approves for the administrative and programme support budget an additional $1 million for 1992, an additional $2 million for 1993 and an additional $2 million for 1994, plus two additional international Professional and two additional General Service posts with their associated costs ($360,000 per year) for the period 1992-1994. These increases are described in paragraph 5 of document E/ICEF/1992/CRP.43 and will be included in the revised budget estimates for the biennium 1992-1993 and the proposed budget estimates for the biennium 1994-1995.